AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST.

Designed to improve the Farmer, the Planter, and the Gardener.

AGRICULTURE IS THE MOST HEALTHY, THE MOST USEFUL, AND THE MOST NOBLE EMPLOYMENT OF MAN.—WASHINGTON.

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For Prospectus, Terms, &c., ☞ SEE LAST PAGE. ☜

MULES—THEIR BREEDING—REARING—USES.

NUMBER II.

The best and most approved asses for the American breeders, are unquestionably those of Spanish and of Maltese stock. Numerous asses of both sexes have, from an early date, been imported into this country; but, for many years past the importations have been confined chiefly to jacks. These really noble animals are as superior to the common donkey of England, as the thorough-bred English horse is to the ragged Indian pony of Canada or Michigan. In their native countries they are bred with great care, and of approved pedigree, and are models of assinine excellence. Hence they are the stock from which the finest American asses are derived, and to which their pedigrees must be traced to give them their highest value. Yet, they are smaller in Spain and Malta, than their descendants are in Kentucky and Ohio. It is rare to see a Spanish or Maltese jack over fifteen hands high—the common standard is probably little more than fourteen. We have seen many very fine imported ones not above that average; but when bred to our western jennies, their stock rapidly comes up to the standard of western size—fifteen to sixteen hands, as observed in our last week's article on mules.

The remarkable degree of improvement which western breeders have made in the size of the ass is, no doubt, to be ascribed to the abundance of their food, their fine climate, and the good care which is bestowed upon them. The dam being well fed on succulent and nutritious food, and performing no labor, a perfect development of the young foal is the consequence. The same treatment continued, the young ass draws a full degree of nourishment from its dam until it can eat corn with her, of which they are scarce ever denied all that they will eat, in addition to their wonted pasturage, nearly the year round. This high feeding gives the young foal a rapid growth, increased size, and early maturity. Indeed the soft Indian corn of our western States appears to be the best calculated of all grains whatever to promote rapid growth, great size, and early maturity, in all grain-eating animals. How it affects other important qualities appertaining to them, we shall discuss hereafter; but of these facts, corroborated by a long experience, we think there can be little question. Thus the ass of Kentucky, and other States of the Ohio valley, is equaled in size and appearance by no animal of his race, probably, in the world.

The same care in breeding, and the quality and abundance of their food, has worked the same wonderful improvement in the mule. The western breeding-mare is usually a large, well developed animal; seldom over-worked, usually fat, and most generally the favorite stock of the farm. As with the she ass, her foal is produced strong healthy, and nearly perfect in its parts. This applies to the mule as well as to her own kind. From its birth the young mule draws an abundance of milk from its dam until four months old. It then goes into the best pastures. As soon as it will eat corn it is fed all that it desires; and not for a single day does it cease to grow till it leaves for a distant market. At four months the young mule is geneally delivered to the contractor, who is usually the owner of the jack which got it, at a price varying from thirty to fifty dollars, according to the mule market, the services of the jack thrown in, which well repays the breeder for the use of his mare, besides the work she has incidentally done on his farm. The purchaser of the young beast keeps his mules in droves, well pastured, and *corned*, (both in the grain and the blade,) until he meets with an acceptable purchaser, which is seldom later than two years of age; when they are generally collected together by the traders and go to a southern or eastern market, as the demand may control. At two and a half to three years old the mule is broken into the harness. Well fed, and not over-worked, he continues to grow until six years old, when he is at full maturity, and henceforward fit for any service or drudgery whatever. The late fine exhibition of mules at our State Agricultural Show in this city, in which many of the teams were matches of sixteen hands high and upwards, were but fair specimens of many which are every year sent from our western States to market.

Although the mule has thus been brought up to a size and proportion of which he was fifty years ago scarcely supposed capable, and is, for heavy draught purposes, a more desirable animal than the diminutive brute of that day, many have, unquestionably, in that increased size and early maturity, deteriorated in hardihood, in proportionate strength, in endurance, and in longevity. Fed from his birth on the best and most stimulating food, he requires the same food for life, and if denied it, his powers fail, and he becomes comparatively useless. He has a larger, lighter, spongier bone, made up more rapidly, and with less power of muscle than his ancient relative; which, with scantier or less stimulating fare, gave him more solid bone, with increased muscle, more strength to his weight, and a greater capacity for endurance. Such, we are assured, by those whose practical experience both in breeding and working mules of the past and the present days, are the facts in relation to their comparative qualities. The breeder, rightly for his own interest, has sought to give the greatest growth and earliest maturity to his beast to obtain a ready market for it,—the purchaser found an animal greatly improved in size, style, and appearance, with greater strength, and capable of performing heavier work, yet still a *mule*, and with abundance of food, and good care, executing all that he required of him.

In thus comparing the present *improved* mule to his old-fashioned Yankee relative, we are not at all disposed to depreciate the former; but in tracing that improvement to its natural causes, to caution those who are disposed to adopt mule labor in place of horse or ox labor—of which we are, for many branches of service, decidedly in favor—against the common supposition that mules can do all sorts of drudgery, live on scanty fare, and bear ill usage and neglect with impunity. They will do no such thing. A mule *of the same weight* of a horse, will perform more hours of labor in a day; he will live on less food—eating it quicker, and generally with an appetite; he will keep in better health; he is less liable to founder from either water or grain; he will bear rougher usage; he will live twice as long; he will draw a heavier load; he will not balk, but will pull fifty times at his load—even if hitched to the side of a house he will not cease striving; he will labor patiently, faithfully, continuedly—in all these things beyond the horse. But then, he is usually slower in his gait, not fit for rapid work, although there are exceptions to this, for occasionally they are as fast trotters and walkers—yet great speed is not natural to him. The *true* uses of the mule are for slow, continuous toil, and for such, no animal can compare with him

In sexes, the mare mule is the best. She is the most active, patient and enduring. Her temper is more kindly and tractable. She is less restive and mischivous than the male, yet perhaps of hardly equal strength.

For farm uses they are usually preferable, being less pugnacious among other animals than the males.

With the present prevailing taste, we presume that those requiring mule labor will hardly desire to retrograde into the old style of animal which we have described—nor would we advise it; but we wish to caution all who are unaccustomed to the animal, not to anticipate too much in the amount of labor which they will perform, nor place a too low estimate on the amount of food they will consume; and, beyond all, not to presume on a want of care and attention to them, either while they are at work or at rest. A mule, like all animals, must not be over-worked, he must be well fed, well tended, and kindly treated. With these, for all severe drudgery, the mule is unquestionably superior to the horse as an economical animal; and when one chooses to indulge an eye for large size, fine style, carriage, and other superior qualities in the animal, he may, by lengthening his purse, obtain those that are truly noble in appearance, and fine in—mule action.

A further word to those who are not familiar with the domestic habits of the mule. Let those who have not *constant* labor for them never attempt to keep them as a *working* animal. Sunday is about all the leisure time a mule should enjoy, and even that day he should be in a stable. Turn one or more mules into a pasture with other beasts, particularly horses, if the fences be not at least seven to eight feet high, and strong at that, there is no security that they will be found there when wanted, or that the other creatures in the field will not have their brains knocked out, their legs broken, or their hides torn into strips by their vicious attacks.

ÆGILOPS OVATA THE ORIGINAL OF WHEAT.

In the journal of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, alluded to two weeks since, we find a translation from the French of an account of a series of important experiments made by M. Esprit Fabre, of Agde, in growing true wheat from the common *Ægilops ovata* of the south of France. The article is illustrated by numerous engravings, showing the annual improvement of the native *Ægilops*, till it becomes true wheat. What follows is the most important part of this article, and is sufficient to give our readers a clear idea of the curious and persevering efforts of M. Fabre in proving the origin of wheat.

First year of cultivation, 1839.—The plants were sown for the first time in 1838. In 1839 the flowering stems attained a height of from seventy to eighty centim. The plants ripened from the 15th to the 20th July; they had but few fertile spikelets, each containing only one or two grains, which ripened late; all the other spikelets were sterile by abortion. As a result, I obtained five grains for one, and the grains were close, concave, and very hairy at the top. The ears were deciduous, that is to say, they broke and fell off as soon as ripe. Each valve of the glume had only two awns, of which one was shorter than the other. In one plant, one of these awns became abortive, and there only remained one to each valve of the glume. On others there were some glumes with a long and some with a short beard. Moreover, these plants had exactly the appearance of Touzelle wheat. In some of them the angles of the rachis were strongly ciliated.

Second year, 1840.—In 1839 there was a second sowing. In 1840, at harvest time, the spikelets were more numerous than before, and contained two grains. The valves of the glume terminated in two awns, of which one was four to five times shorter than the other, and was sometimes reduced to a mere tooth. The fruit (grains) was less compact, less concave, and less hairy at the end. The angles of the rachis were less ciliated, and the ears less deciduous, *i.e.*, they fell off less easily. The grains contained much more flour than those of the preceding year.

Third year, 1841.—The seeds sown in the autumn of 1840 gave in 1841 plants with ears like those of *Triticum*, and with scarcely any sterile spikelets; the spikelets generally contained two grains, sometimes three, less concave, and less hairy than those of the preceding year.

The valves of the glume had two awns, one of which was very long, and the other so completely abortive as almost to justify a statement that the awns were single. The plants became more and more like *Triticum* in appearance.

Fourth year, 1842.—The seeds sown 1841 yielded plants which were attacked by rust. The ears of these plants were remarkable for the small development of the awn, which gave them the appearance of beardless Touzelle. There were twenty ears which did not yield a single grain.

Those plants which did not suffer from the attack of rust produced deciduous ears, the awns of which were less abortive; there were as many as three flowers in the same spikelet, and they yielded two or three good grains, hairy, but slightly, at their apex.

Fifth year, 1843.—In 1843 the plants, from the seed sown in 1842, attained the height of a yard. One of the two awns of the valves of the glume was so short and rudimentary, that these valves may be said to have had but one awn.

In each spikelet were two fertile flowers at least, somtimes three. The corn or grains were so well developed that they were partly exposed through the valves of the florets. The ears were less fragile. *The plants were exactly like wheat in appearance.* One of these plants, kept carefully clear of weeds, yielded 380 for one, and another 450. These grains, better developed, protruded through their coverings, and did not remain completely inclosed as did those of the preceding years.

Sixth year, 1844.—All the spikelets of the plants obtained this year from the seeds sown in the autumn of 1843 were fertile, and a tolerable quantity of them contained three grains. These grains, which were visible through their envelops, were still concave on one side. The ears remained deciduous. The valves of the glume had only one awn, with an excessively short rudiment of another.

Seventh year, 1845.—The plants gathered in 1845 were very like wheat. Their valves had only one awn, accompanied by a mere tooth, the rudiment of the other. The glume inclosed four or five flowers, of which three were fertile, as in good corn. These plants may be regarded as truly *Triticum*.

The experiments which led to the results just detailed, and which were conducted during seven successive years, were made in an inclosure surrounded by high walls, far from any place where cereals were cultivated, and in which there was no other gramineous plant.

Eighth year, 1846.—Cultivation in open field. Thinking that I had brought the *Ægilops triticoides* to its greatest perfection, and that I had ultimately obtained a true *Triticum*, or wheat, I determined to cultivate my plants in the open fields, and to sow them broad-cast in the ordinary way. Accordingly in 1845 I sowed some seeds in this manner in a field near the road to Marseillan, in a soil like what is called in the country *souberbe*, and inclosed on all sides by vineyards. Care was taken to avoid the open fields in which wheat was cultivated, in order to prevent any pollen from it falling on the *Triticum* obtained from *Ægilops*. For four years successively this was continued, and in each autumn I obtained produce similar to that yielded by common wheat grown in soils of a like nature; the yield was from six to eight times the quantity of seed, varying with the year.

The plants obtained in 1850 had the following characters: The stems were straight, not bent, from sixty to seventy centim. in height, and full of pith. The valves of the glume terminated in a single awn, the rudiment of the other being scarcely visible. They were very slightly striated, and almost hairless. The two valves of the florets were membranous, as in *Ægilops*, but the exterior one had only a single awn, and the other had none. The ears were composed of from eight to twelve spikelets, having two or three fertile flowers, and each consequently producing two or three grains: these grains were very flowery and very little concave.

The yield of 1850 was inferior both in quality to that of the three preceding years; but this was evidently the result of atmospheric influences. The excessive dryness which in that year prevailed from March until the autumn, had a very prejudical effect on cereals.

For twelve consecutive years I have thus cultivated *Ægilops triticoides* and its products; I have seen them gradually attain perfection, and become at last true wheat (*Triticum*), and I have never seen a single plant reassume its primitive form, that of *Ægilops ovata*, L. This form never reappeared.

Let us now recapitulate the series of modifications by which *Ægilops ovata* became transformed into a sort of *Triticum sativum* (cultivated wheat).

Æ. ovata, as generally met with in a wild state, is glaucous in all its parts. Its flowering stems never exceed twenty or twenty-five centim. in height; its upper leaves never reach the first tooth of the rachis of the ear; the last is short and oval, has only four spikelets, and of these the two lower ones are alone fertile.

Even in a wild state the grains of *Æ. ovata* give rise to the variety called *triticoides*, in which one or two of the awns of *Æ. ovata* disappear, so that the valves of the glume of the greater part of the spikelets have only two long awns instead of four in the lower spikelets. The outer membranous valve of the floret, instead of terminating in three awns, has only one, at the base of which may be seen the two rudiments of those which are wanting. The other membranous valve is without a beard, and is ciliated at its apex. The ears are formed, like those of *Æ. ovata*, of three or four spikelets, generally sterile, rarely fertile. The florets are hermaphrodite, and inclose three stamens around a pistil, ending in two long silky stigmas. These florets are often sterile, in consequence of the abortion of the pistil. The fruit (grains) of those which are fertile is elongated, angular, very concave, and sometimes flattened on one side; its color is yellow, approaching blackness, like that of *Æ. ovata*, but is much longer, and is silky at the top.

These grains, sown and cultivated for the

first time, yielded plants three or four times as high; their ears were cylindrical and much more elongated than those of the parent plant, and the valves of their glumes had only two awns, of which one was shorter than the other, and occasionally one was almost entirely absent, so that each glume had but one awn, as is the case with corn. Further, as in *Triticum*, the awns of the glumes of some of the plants were very long, while those of the others were short. The plants moreover had the appearance of *Triticum*, and assumed its characters more and more. The spikelets, more numerous than those of the parent plant, were often sterile, and the few which were not had only one or two fertile flowers, so that the fertile spikelets only yielded one or two grains. These grains, being sown, produced the next year more perfect plants. Their spikelets were more numerous than before, and almost all of them contained two fertile flowers, and thus yielded two grains. The awns of the glume were always two in number, but the abortion of one was in every case carried further than previously, and was often complete. The grains were less compact, less concave, less hairy at their extremity. The ears, when ripe, separated less easily from the axis, and the grains were much more floury than in former years. A third year produced plants similar to those of the year before, but more perfect. They had scarcely any sterile spikelets, each of which yielded two and sometimes three grains, more developed, less concave, and less hairy.

The next, being the fourth year, produced no notable change. A year later the stems attained the height of a yard; the grains were sufficiently developed to separate the valves of the floret and to be wholly exposed when ripe. The mature ears separated less easily from the stems.

The year following all the spikelets were fertile, although the ears separated with ease.

The next year the ears did not break off easily; all the spikelets were fertile, and occasionally inclosed three well developed grains. It is clear that a true *Triticum* was then obtained, for a cultivation in the open fields for four successive years did not cause any change in its form, and it yielded produce similar to that of the other wheat of the country.

[The foregoing observations show that *Æ. ovata*, L., is capable of being extremely modified under certain circumstances. While its floral envelopes lose their width and some of their awns, and thus become like those of *Triticum*, their stems, leaves, and ears become more and more developed, and at length acquire all the characters of wheat. The necessary inference is that some, if not all, cultivated *Tritica* are peculiar forms of *Ægilops*, and ought to be regarded as races of this species.

If this be admitted, it is easy to reconcile the accounts given of the origin of wheat. It has been said both in ancient and in modern times that wheat was wild in Babylonia, Persia, and Sicily. In all these countries *Ægilops* is common, and it is not surprising that some of its species may have accidentally acquired a wheat-like form, and have been afterward improved and propagated by cultivation. Thus to M. Esprit Fabre is due the merit of having ascertained the true origin of cultivated wheat. Its origin had, it is true, been suspected and vaguely pointed out by several persons; but the honor of a discovery is really due not to the authors of a surmise, but to him who has established the fact by observation, experiment, or reasoning, leaving no room for further doubt.

Note by Professor Dunal.

A Good appetite comes by hard labor.

AN HOUR IN A GREAT BARN.

A little above the Concord station on the Fitchburg Railway, the traveler may see on the north side, at the distance of one-third of a mile, a most spacious barn, built by the present proprietor of the "Treasurer Barrett farm," S. P. Wheeler.

The building is one hundred and twenty-five feet in length by fifty-four in width. The mansion-house was occupied by Harvard College during a portion of the revolution. What a space this barn would have furnished the students for recitation halls!

The barn has a projecting roof, with gutters, which not only make the entrance more comfortable, but protect the painted sides of the building from being scoured by the heavy rains. None can deny, too, but that the projecting roof combines a great deal of beauty with its utility.

The barn stands nearly east and west. The cow stable is on the south side, extending the whole length of the barn; there are several entrances—all the doors being upon wheels, and opening with a touch. The stable is also perfectly lighted by numerous windows, protected outside an in by substantial guards. There was a pump by the door where I entered, which supplied water to the stock indoors, when desirable. One of Fay & Dakins' large wooden pumps was about being set in operation in the yard adjoining. Taking things as I saw them, the next thing was the scuttles; these were a foot wide, back of the trench, and hinged on to the platform; no manure falls upon the scuttles. They can be thrown over with ease with a hoe, and the stable frequently cleaned with very little labor. The scuttles shut down upon the bottom of the trench, leaving a large and sufficient passage for the escape of the urine.

The trench, the space between the scuttles and the platform under the cow, is eighteen inches wide and two and a half deep. Experiments prove this depth to be hardly enough.

The cows are all fastened in stanchions which were numbered. The stanchions were each supplied with a chained pin, are uniform, planed and painted a dark lead color. The long stall for cows holds forty head; nearly this number looked sleek and happy in their comfortable quarters. The stable is fourteen feet in width, which includes a space three feet in front of the stanchions, forming also a desirable widening to the barn-floor when not in use for feeding. There is no "crib" or "rack," to be seen. The cattle eat from off the floor. The timber holding the foot of the stanchions prevents any hay from being drawn under their feet and wasted. As I saw no partitions between the cows, I asked the polite superintendent if the cows did not hook one another; he assured me that they did not. The cows had been fed with husks, and a man took a rake, and with the back of it, slid the butts left into a pile as quick as he could walk the length of the floor. I saw a cutting machine and a mixing trough; but I made no inquiries about the feeding.

The barn-floor extends from end to end, where there are large doors upon the largest size rollers. The floor in planked lengthwise, and is very smooth and substantial. The posts, of which there are twenty-five in the floor, are eighteen feet in height. The scaffold, usually called the "rye-beams," is of uniform height with no *drops*, which some consider a gain in unloading hay. A room in the north side of the barn, opening into the floor, is devoted to meal, grain, and farm implements.

The carriage-house and horse-stables are all comprised in an L which opens upon the door-yard. Here is a room to drive in several carriages, and untackle entirely protected from the weather. The common labor of "getting fixed off," must be almost wholly unknown with such conveniences.

I next went into the cellar; it is the whole size of the barn, and has an entrance (sliding-door) on the east side. The bottom is planked to prevent the escape of the liquid manure, as the cellar was dug in sand. The manure of course occupies the south side—an immense pile. It is occasionally leveled and earth and absorbents thrown on to keep it in a good state. On the north side of the cellar were immense piles of roots, of which about a thousand bushels were raised the present season. This fact may have some connection with the soft skins of the animals above. The cellar is eleven feet in height, is walled in a very substantial manner, and perfectly lighted.

The outside of the barn is covered in the style known as the "Swiss fastening;" that is, boards are put on extending from the brackets down, and then the joints covered with narrow, leveled strips, about two and a half inches wide. There is a large cupola on the ridge, and a number of smaller ones along the roof at intervals half-way down. The whole exterior is handsomely painted.

This, Mr. Editor, is a sketch of my observations during an hour I spent in this fine barn. I fear I have conveyed to your readers a very inadequate idea of the whole. A good barn is a matter of so much consequence to the farmer, that I am interested in every attempt to improve the standard. There are several others in town; I hope to be able to report to you, perhaps more fully. Respectfully yours,

New-England Farmer.] W. D. BROWN.

PRESERVATION OF TURNIPS.

The Germantown Telegraph says: Mr. Blight, of Devon, Pa., whose success in preserving the ruta baga turnip, is well known, adopts the following mode: He selects a dry part of his field, excavates the ground to the depth of about six inches, three feet wide as long as may be needed. In this the turnips are placed as high as the width of the shallow trench will admit, the pile being about two feet in the middle. Over the mass a good layer of cornstalks, straw or haulm, is placed, when the earth is carefully and completely heaped up to a sharp pitch, and well spanked.

At the distance of every fifteen or twenty feet a vent hole is left, the size of a common stove-pipe, in which a roll of straw is firmly twisted. This has the effect of exhausting the pit of the heated, impure atmosphere by which they naturally become filled, producing decomposition. By this simple, easy mode of pitting Mr. B. has usually preserved his English turnips throughout the winter in good condition and sold them at remarkable prices.

French Farmers.—The usual rate of land is about 80 francs per hectare, 33 francs per acre; and the land-tax amounting to about 13 francs per hectare, is also generally paid by the tenant. The farmers, though well off, are frugal both as regards dress and living; their wives are "the very impersonations of industry." The French farmer's wife takes a living interest in the homestead, and is as ready to show a stranger over the whole as the farmer himself, being alike at home among the cattle in the straw-yard as among the poultry. From the number of men boarded in the house, and the female servants being few in number, the farmer's wife has her hands full. "Still she never appears to overlook the toilet, being in dress and in manner essentially the well bred lady." [N. B. Agriculturist.

PLASTER OF PARIS AS A FIXING AGENT.

In a previous number I detailed some experiments made upon gypsum (sulphate of lime) and carbonate of ammonia, showing that they will decompose each other when *dry*, and from this, inferring that the use of the former as an ingredient of compost heaps, to retain the latter liberated by decay, was founded on truly scientific principles.

During the summer I have extended these investigations, and experiment has demonstrated what was before inferred.

A few ounces of gypsum or sulphate of lime, (dry but not burned,) was exposed to the fumes and gasses arising from the vault of a privy, for a few weeks, and then carefully examined, when it was found to contain a sensible amount of *sulphate of ammonia* which had arisen from the absorption and decomposition of the carbonate of ammonia, given off from the decaying night-soil. The amount was small, but the conditions of the experiment were such that a large amount could not have been expected. Yet this small amount proved the theory correct.

Another experiment, still more decisive was tried. Some gypsum was spread upon a common plate; this set upon a pile of horse-stable manure, a small box inverted over it to prevent any manure coming in contact with the gypsum, and the whole covered with the manure, which was accumulating from day to day. The pile was continually undergoing decomposition and decay, attended by some heat. At the end of some weeks, the gypsum was taken out, exposed to the air a day or two, and then chemically examined. It was still nearly dry, that is, not wet, and contained a very notable quantity of *sulphate of ammonia* and *carbonate of lime*, proving most decisively that as carbonate of ammonia was generated by the decomposition and decay, it was absorbed and decomposed by the gypsum, and retained in the form of the *sulphate of ammonia*.

It has long been known and recognized that such decomposition took place whenever these materials were in actual contact, and dissolved in water, but many have denied that it would take place when dry, and hence that gypsum was of no use in a compost, or mixed with barn-yard manure, to fix the ammonia, for in such cases it was not dissolved, but merely moistened generally. The experiments published last spring, and especially those now mentioned, prove that it *will retain it*, partially at least. When they are mixed in piles, the conditions for the decomposition are much more favorable than in the experiments made, for then they are in contact, and moistened, and the instant the one is liberated by decay, the other decomposes and retains it.

It is unnecessary here to enumerate in detail the applications, many of which have long been used without any doubts of their efficacy, by those reaping the advantages. It forcibly suggests the use of gypsum with guano, and all highly ammonical manures, also with barn-yard manures and composts. It recommends spreading it over and mixing it with piles of stable manure, which are accumulating through the summer, and generally wasting by heating, nearly as fast as it accumulates.

But I will let your practical readers make such applications as their good sense will dictate. Yours truly,

OVID, N. Y., 1854. WM. H. BREWER.
[Country Gentleman.

MATCHES.—The consumption of lucifer matches in France, together with the quantity required for exportation, is set down as demanding a supply per day of seventy-six millions eight hundred thousand matches.

A LARGE FARM—A CHANGE.

We are pleased to see the passion exhibited in California for patent plows and ox-yokes. The people are becoming practical in their ideas, directing less time to mining and gambling, and more to agricultural pursuits. In the vicinity of San Francisco there are a few model farms, whose productiveness will challenge the admiration of the world.

One of these farms belongs to General Hutchinson. The General owns a farm of 50,000 acres, the whole of which, in a few years, he intends to have seeded down with wheat, dairy-maids and short-horned Durhams. At the present time he has under cultivation about 1,500 acres. This is divided as follows: 600 acres in wheat, 500 in barley, and the balance in root and pumpkin crops, kitchen garden, &c. Forty plows and twenty harrows are used in the breaking up of the soil. Twenty-five yokes of working oxen and sixty horses are used in plowing, harrowing, teaming, threshing, pressing hay and other operations that are constantly carried on. Seventy men were employed during the harvesting season; at other times forty. Seven reapers have leveled the grain, and two of Pitts's eight horse power threshers work in the fields, each machine finishing seven hundred bushels per day. Five or six mowers were used in cutting hay and grain. Six hundred tons of hay have been gathered in the finest manner. The hay yard, with its hay presses, is in the very best condition: one stack contained nearly two hundred tons. Some two hundred tons of hay have been pressed, ready for the market; one hundred already have been marketed. The "large hay stack" is said to be the largest ever got up and finished. It is one hundred and sixty paces long, (or ten rods,) about twenty feet wide and forty high. We understand this "pretty little pile" is intended for the use of the stock during the fall plowing. In addition to the stock named, there are some two hundred head of farm stock, 200 hogs, and 300 domestic fowls. The dairy consists of one hundred and thirty cows, and seventy calves. It requires twenty-five double teams in constant use, to carry the crops to market, and return the materials and stock wanted upon the farm. The blacksmithing shop employs three men, the wheelright the same, and every day brings new machinery into use; and as at such a farm there ever will be repairs wanted, it is economy to have a shop that is ready for any emergencies. There are ten miles of fence finished, and six more will be added this autumn. This farm is one of the finest in America. It is also one of the best managed. Everything has been reduced to a system, the whole of which works with the smoothness of well regulated machines. A portion of the General's wheat field gives sixty bushels to the acre. Where is Slingerland now? The estimated receipts of Gen. Hutchinson's farm, for the year 1855, are put down at $220,000—nearly as much as the gross value of all the truck raised in the town of Bethlehem.

Albany Knickerbroker.

THE SUGAR CROP.—The accounts of the Louisiana Sugar Crop, published in the New-Orleans papers, are all unfavorable. They say the amount of sugar produced will fall short at least one-third, compared with last year, owing to a deficiency in the juice of the cane; but the quality of the sugar manufactured, is described as being much better, as the juice is richer. Planters are busy, grinding and rolling.

WHY is a person knocking at the door like an overcoat? Because he's a wrapper.

ARTIFICIAL GUANO.

The following we clip from an English paper and insert it as an item of news. We have, however, little faith in the substitute for guano here presented. The analysis does not show ammonia enough, for we esteem this the most valuable and essential element in any manure:

A new patent substitute for guano, consisting of decomposed and concentrate seaweed, is about to be introduced by Mr. Longmaid, with the view of claiming the prize of £1,000 offered by the Royal Agricultural Society. The material is reduced to a powder, and rendered suitable to be applied by the drill. Many experiments with regard to its fertilizing powers are said to have been made during the past year, and the subjoined analysis of a sample has been furnished by Proffessor Way. The process is stated to be simple; the price is estimated at £5 per ton or under; and it is contemplated to establish manufactories at various stations on the coast.

	Per-centage composition of the dry manure.
Organic matter: Soluble 48.13, Insoluble 17.79	65.92
Sand, &c	3.18
Alumina, with a little peroxide of iron	.40
Phosphate of lime	.74
Sulphate of lime	2.05
Chloride of calcium	1.22
Chloride of magnesium	2.02
Chloride of sodium	5.12
Sulphate of potash	5.70
Soda	13.65
	100.00
Nitrogen	3.23
Equal to ammonia	3.92

MANURES FOR LIGHT AND HEAVY SOILS.

A very intelligent correspondent—N'Importe—closes a business letter as follows:

* * * The experiments with "Concentrated Fertilizers on Corn," in November 22 number, would be more satisfactory if the original constituents of the soil were given. Concentrated manures, where nitrogen and its compounds are in excess, are doubtless the most profitable on all loose soils; but for our hard, tenacious calcareous clay, I am convinced, from long experiment in gardening, that carbonaceous matter sufficient to keep the soil light and friable, will also give to the soil, in its decomposition, all the necessary inorganic matter and carbonic acid and ammonia; while the soil itself is a natural collector and retainer of the latter from the atmosphere. I have planted both heavy clay and light sandy loams; while the latter was only kept productive by a continual yearly supply of nitrogen, the former only stood in need of coarse carbonaceous matter, with small additions of azote. I have found that no matter how abundantly a soil may be supplied with all the elements of organic structure, if its mechanical structure is not perfect and well drained, mangel wurtzells of 18 pounds weight can not be grown on it.

THE following curious advertisement appears in a Western paper: "Whereas, at particular times I may importune my friends and others to let me have liquor, which is hurtful to me and detrimental to society—This is, therefore, to forbid all persons selling me liquor, or letting me have it on any account or pretence; for if they do, I will *positively* prosecute them, notwithstanding any promise I make to the contrary at the time they may let me have it."

HEALTHINESS OF THE ROOTS OF PLANTS ESSENTIAL TO THEIR SUCCESSFUL GROWTH.

BY A PRACTICAL FARMER.

As the roots of plants are *the chief medium* through which they receive nourishment, some account of their structure, and of the curious and simple mode by which they effect their object, will, I hope, prove of some utility to the readers hereof.

The root may be defined to be that portion of a plant which grows in an apposite direction to the stem; and differing from the latter in its remarkable downward tendency, and from its disposition to shun the light of day. So powerful, indeed, is this disposition to descend, "that no known force is sufficient to overcome it." The chief object of the root appears to be that of fixing the plant firmly in the earth, and of taking up a supply of moisture from the humid medium by which it is surrounded. It usually consists of several ramifications, from the sides and extremities of which, without any apparent order or regularity, proceed an indefinite number of delicate fibrils with spongy points. Now these fibrils are the only true roots, and to their soft extremities (spongelets) is consigned the whole office of absorbing fluid; the more woody portions of the root merely serving as canals, to convey the fluid thus obtained to the upper part of the plants. The roots generally pierce the soil in a downward or horizontal direction, according to the individual habit, but more especially in that course which offers the least resistance, and yields the greatest quantity of soluble food. Hence the propriety of *mulching* is, by some gardeners, called into question, because the richness of the mulching materal, and the warmth produced by its fermentation, has a tendency to attract to the surface the young fibrils. And then, upon the removal of the manure employed in the operation, their extremely succulent and tender tips become exposed to the influence of drouth, &c., than which nothing can be more injurious, as it quickly destroys their absorbing power, and thus deprives the plant of its chief source of nourishment. It has been said that the fibrils are the only true roots, and that the feeding function is chiefly confined to the lax tissue of their extreme points. That this is really the case, there can be no reasonable cause to doubt, or why should the success of planting depend so materially upon their preservation? it being a well known fact, that subjects of any size, such as fruit trees, are invariably less prolific the first season after transplantation, than on the previous and ensuing years. Why these little spongelets should possess the power of absorbing moisture with great force, and of transmitting it to every part of the plant, is a curious question, and has given rise to many ingenious conjectures. But it has at length been satisfactorily answered by that clever French author, M. Dutrocet. If a small glass tube, having its end covered with a piece of bladder, be partially filled with gum-water, and then plunged into simple water, sufficient to wet the outside of the bladder, the latter will be permeated by the water, and the volume within the tube will continue to increase, so long as the density of the fluids on each side of the intervening membrane remains unequal. "But there is also a contrary current to less amount—the interior fluid passing out to mix with the surrounding water." The first and more powerful of these currents is called endosmose (flow inwards), and the second and less powerful, exosmose (flow outwards). The cause of their motion was by Dutrocet referred to galvanism; but it is now more generally believed to arise from "the attraction exerted between the particles of the different fluids employed, as they meet in the porous membrane."—(Dr. Reid.)

"Now the conditions requisite for this action are two fluids of different densities, separated by a septem or partition of a porous character. This we find in the roots. The fluid in their interior is rendered denser than the water around by an admixture of the descending sap; and the spongeole (or spongelet) supplies the place of a partition. Thus then, as long as this difference of density is maintained, the absorption of fluid may continue. But if the rise of the sap is due to the action of endosmose, there ought also to be an exosmose. This is found to take place; for if a plant is grown with its roots in water, the fluid surrounding them is soon found to contain some of the peculiar substances they form, and which are contained in the descending sap; thus a pea or bean would discharge a gummy matter; a poppy would communicate to the water an opiate impregnation, and a spurge would give it an acrid taste.

"Thus we see how beautifully and how simply this action, extraordiary as it seems, is accounted for, when its whole history is known on principles which operate in other departments of nature."—(Dr. Carpenter.)

From this it must appear obvious to every one that, to keep plants in a healthy state, the conditions of endosmose and exosmose must be carefully maintained. Thus in the case of bulbs maturing and at rest, and of plants cut down in the autumn, such as Pelargoniums and Fuchsias, the actions of the leaves being destroyed, the fluid, rising by the force of endosmose, must gradually subside, and the plants languish into a state of semi-vitality, till such time as genial warmth shall expand the fluid within their latent buds, and cause them to open and put forth new leaves. This is the reason why the application of water to plants thus circumstanced should be carefully avoided, excepting, indeed, a few special subjects, whose succulency is not sufficient to keep them from being shriveled up.

Floricultural Cabinet.

COUCH OR TWITCH GRASS.

TRITICUM REPENS.

To the Editors of the American Agriculturist:

Some question having arisen in spring last, as to the identity of the Couch grass, I took the trouble to forward you some specimens of the flowers and roots, or stolons, found in this vicinity. You doubted, at first, whether they were the true Couch grass of your farmers, as the specimens were large and full grown, the spikes being very much like wheat. Specimens of Chess were forwarded at the same time. No notice having been made in your columns, of the fact that the Couch grass of our farmers is *Triticum repens* of Botanists, or *Agropyrum repens* of some, it struck me as probable that you did not consider me as competent authority. I am surprised, however, to find that, several months after the receipt of my specimens, you publish, from the Agricultural Gazette, without comment, an article wherein it is stated broadly, that the Couch or Twitch grasses are of the *Agrostis* family. Here is the sentence: "The Couch or Twitch grasses are plants of the Agrostis family." Family, in this sense, is coextensive with *genus*, and I submit that the Couch or Twitch grass, known as such to intelligent agriculturists, is not a plant of the genus or family Agrostis, but is the *Triticum repens*, or *Agropyrum repens* (creeping wheat grass) of the Botanist. I desire to have the improving, reading farmers protected from error, and when questions requiring scientific accuracy are involved, to have them decided by scientific rules or principles.

There is a grass of the Agrostis family, (A. stolonifera,) but this is the Fiorin of agriculturists. I trust you may not deem my authority of less value than that of "J. N.", whom you have quoted on page 146.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa. R. R. S.

Our correspondent slightly misunderstands us. Our doubts were not that the specimens he sent us were the true Couch grass, but that they were not the same as are usually called Couch grass among the farmers of this State, more particularly west of Albany.

HOW TO TOAST BREAD.

CHESTNUT brown will be far too deep a color for good toast; the nearer you can keep it to a straw color, the more wholesome it will be. If you would have a slice of bread so toasted as to be pleasant to the palate and wholesome to the stomach, never let one particle of the surface be charred. To effect this is very obvious. It consists in keeping the bread at the proper distance from the fire, and exposing it to a proper heat for a due length of time. By this means the whole of the water may be evaporated out of it, and it may be changed from dough—which has always a tendency to undergo acetous fermentation, whether in the stomach or out of it—to the pure farina wheat, which is in itself one of the most wholesome species of food, not only for the strong and healthy, but for the delicate and diseased. As it is turned to farina, it is disintegrated, the tough and gluey nature is gone, every part can be penetrated, it is equally warm all over, and not so hot as to turn the butter into oil, which, even in the case of the best butter, is invariably turning a wholesome substance into a poison. The properly toasted slice of bread absorbs the butter, but does not convert it into oil; and both butter and farina are in a state of very minute division, the one serving to expose the other to the free action of the gastric fluid in the stomach; so that when a slice of toast is rightly prepared, there is not a lighter article in the whole vocabulary of cookery. [Household Cookery.

NEW FOOD FOR SHEEP.—In the neighborhood of Geneva many persons may be seen collecting the fruit of the horse-chestnut. A traveler on inquiring their use, was told that the butchers and holders of grazing stock bought them for fattening sheep. The horse-chestnuts, it appears, are thoroughly crushed, like apples for cider. They are crushed or cut up in a machine, kept solely in Switzerland for that purpose, and about two pounds weight is given to each sheep, morning and evening. It is necessary to be careful that they do not eat too much, or they would prove too heating. It is said to give a fine rich flavor to the meat. The Geneva mutton is noted for being as highly flavored as any in England or Wales. How would this food answer for poultry?

Poultry Chronicle.

INCREASING THE STRENGTH OF METALS.—According to an experimental paper read at the late meeting of the British Association by Mr. Wm. Fairburn, all bodies solidifying under great pressure have their strength and specific gravity increased. No law has yet been given for the increase of either, but it would appear from the experiments detailed by Mr. Fairburn, that great results are expected from the solidification of metals under high pressures. He and his colleagues, Messrs. Hopkins & Joyle, have carried their experiments as high as 90,000 lbs. pressure to the square inch, or exceeding 42 tons.

BE slow to give advice—ready to do any service.

Horticultural Department.

THE HORTICULTURIST FOR NOVEMBER.

The number opens with a very finely executed engraving of the Caroline de Sansel rose, which was selected from a whole half acre of roses, as one of the two most worthy of the distinction of an engraving. It is said to be the best among the light colored varieties; the flowers opening well, and retaining their form and color for a long while.

The leader is a timely article on "Parks and Pleasure Grounds for the Farmers." The time has fully come when our farms should cease to be regarded as mere manufactories of food and the raw material of clothing. It is one of the great wants of our times that these farms should be turned into attractive Christian homes, where men and women shall not only work, eat, sleep, and die, but where they shall enjoy life, as social and religious beings, and by loving and cultivating the good and the beautiful on earth, be fitted for the paradise of God. A man should no longer be considered a good citizen, who does not plant trees enough, and give time and money enough, to make his homestead so attractive that it shall retain some of his children to fill his place when he is gone. Multitudes of these old homesteads in the north are forsaken, mainly because there was nothing but the sternest utility about them, in the whole circle of the year.

The writer shows that the farmer may have his park without incurring a very heavy expense. He can fence off, with any good hedge plant, five or ten acres immediately around the house; and it will be as available for mowing or pasture, as if it were on any other part of the farm. The hedge would not cost more than twenty-five cents a rod. Seed the inclosure, and plant it with young maples, elms, tulip trees, basswoods, and other forest trees, at your leisure. Cultivate the soil around the trees until they are well established. They should be set in clusters, and singly, in all parts of the park, leaving ample room for them to attain full size at mature age. The park, after the trees are well established, may be pastured with sheep, as many parks are in Europe; and thus it would have a closely cut surface, without the expense of mowing, and the sheep would be an interesting feature in its scenery.

The "Philadelphia pear" is figured, and highly recommended in an article by Dr. Brinkle. Its size, taken in connection with its other fine qualities, will render it one of our greatest pomological acquisitions; and at no distant day it will occupy a high position among the most valuable varieties of this excellent fruit. Its present name was given to it by the Native Fruit Committee of the American Pomological Society. With skillful cultivation, the Philadelphia will probably equal in size, as it surpasses in flavor, the largest grown specimens of the Duchesse d'Angoulême. The editor, who tested it at Boston this fall, regards it as an important acquisition.

An Amateur has an excellent article on "Grape Culture in Cold Vineries," that makes one's mouth water. He prefers the curvelinear roof, running due north and south, as it secures a longer period of the sun's rays, without its scorching effects at meridian, and concentrates a more equable heat during the day. He follows Mr. Chorlton's direction for preparing a border, with the addition of about fifty barrels of refuse charcoal sweepings; a quantity of refuse potash in sawdust, as obtained from the floors of inspection offices; two bags of guano—nearly 400 pounds; and one foot deeper. Vines one and two years from the eye were set out in 1852, and grew thirty feet the first season. In 1853 they were allowed to fruit five bunches each. They matured well, and gave a succession of grapes from the first of August to the last of November. The present season, the vines were allowed to ripen ten bunches each. Their maturity surpassed the preceding year, in size, color, and flavor, and the canes were better ripened, giving satisfactory evidence of unimpaired health.

As these grapes were selected with reference to a succession, the list is valuable to those who wish to order vines for a grapery to supply their own table. Royal Muscadine, Muscat blanc hatiff, Joslyn's St. Albans, and White Frontignan, are the earliest varieties. These are followed by the Austrian Muscat, Zinfindal, Xeres, and Decon's Superb. Then come the Hamburgs, White Tokay, Malvasia, Rose Chasselas, and Muscat of Alexandria; and, latest, Reine de Nice, Prince Albert, Cambridge Botanic Garden, Syrian, and West's St. Peters.

Any one desirous of enjoying this luscious fruit in perfection, may realize the most satisfactory results, by having a tight curvelinear house, at a cost of $12 the running foot, (say fifty feet in length, for $600,) which will be a tasteful appendage to any establishment. This, with a rich compost border, stinting neither quantity or quality of the material in its first construction, and with Chorlton's treatise upon exotic grapes as a guide, he can not fail to reap full satisfaction in the investment.

We have waited with interest for the editor's opinion upon the merits of the Concord grape; and we find it given at length, in this number, and with evident candor. It accords substantially with our own, expressed in former issues. He says: "It has the same foxy perfume and flavor of the Isabella, but stronger; when a few berries are eaten, a prickling sensation is produced on the tongue. This has been remarked by all who have tested it, so far as we know. It is very juicy, and will, we think, prove to be an excellent wine grape. For the table, however, we do not think it equal to the Isabella; and in this opinion nearly all disinterested parties, whom we have conversed with, agree. It was tested and compared with the Isabella, at Boston, grown at Weston, not far from Concord; and not one on the committee considered it as good. We have again compared it with Isabellas grown here, and the latter has been unanimously pronounced superior.

"Yet we regard the grape as an important acquisition, as ripening earlier than either the Catawba, or Isabella, and therefore likely to furnish northern sections with a grape, where, heretofore, no good grapes have ripened. We believe the merits of the grape have been exaggerated."

This grape has now been before the public several seasons, and has been fully discussed in the pomological journals. Fruit growers, in search of the truth, have now the necessary data to form their own opinions. Five dollars a vine is a little "too warm in the mouth" for an article inferior to the Isabella.

The editor raps the knuckles of our New-York hotel keepers. Their fruit desserts are shabby. At the very best, where $2 50 per day is charged, one can not find a *good* pear or a *good* bunch of grapes upon the table. Those who want such things must go to Thompson's, or Taylor's, and *pay* for them. Our hotel accommodations are good enough; but in the matter of fruit desserts, there is ample scope for improvement. Which of them will take the lead?

The Northern Muscadine grape is condemned as worthless. Matthew's Curculio Remedy is still under the consideration of the committee appointed to test its merits. A. Fahnestock, of Syracuse, N. Y., in a letter, represents it as uniformly successful, where faithfully applied. Mr. Matthews offers to wager $100 on its success, "on any tree, in any soil, and anywhere, with a single application." Is the Millenium of plum growers actually come?

LIQUID MANURE FOR THE GARDEN.

Permit me to offer a few remarks on the valuable effects that night-soil, when reduced to a liquid state, has upon the various productions of the garden; and, as not a few of your readers will be aware, manures are of no use to vegetation until they are dissolved in water. When, therefore, liquid manure is used, the cultivator has less trouble, and at the same time he is applying a substance in the state in which plants can best receive it and derive most good from it.

For some years past I have been in the habit of using this description of manure to a considerable extent, and have found the results to be very beneficial; besides it prevents the necessity of applying for such quantities of manure in a solid state. At the end of the season I make it a rule when turning up vacant pieces of ground to the action of frost, to lay upon the exposed soil some rotten manure, adding a considerable portion of vegetable refuse reduced to mould for such purposes. This mould is obtained by taking all the refuse possible from the garden, throwing it into a heap to rot, and turning it two or three times during the summer. The decomposed vegetable matter is admirably adapted for the growth of plants for culinary purposes.

During the winter I go over the ground intended for the Brassica family, pouring on a large quantity of this liquid, in order to allow the winter rains an opportunity of washing it down, so that the ground is greatly benefited.

The above is also applicable to gooseberry and currant bushes. I have a large basin made round the root of each, and about the end of November I apply two large pans full of the liquid to each plant; afterward I level

in the earth that had been previously taken out for the purpose of forming the basin.

About the end of January, after the bushes have undergone their winter pruning, they again receive a similar supply before commencing to put the ground in neat order for the season. Raspberries and strawberries are also greatly benifited by the use of this liquid. In applying it to raspberries the method recommended for gooseberries is suitable, and where it is applied to strawberries it increases the crop two-fold. Mr. Rivers strongly recommends it for roses. He says, "I have found night-soil mixed with the drainings of the dunghill, or even with common ditch or pond-water, so as to make a thick liquid, the best possible manure for roses, poured on the surface of the soil twice in winter, from one to two gallons at each time. December and January are the best months; the soil need not be stirred till spring, and then merely loosened two or three inches deep with the prongs of a fork; for poor soils, and on lawns, previously removing the turf. This method I have adopted for several years, and found it most efficacious."

When night-soil is not to be got, I take as next best cow-dung made into a thick liquid of the consistency of porter, and apply it in larger quantities than when night-soil is employed. JOHN FLEMING.

BLOOMHILL, Cardross, Dumbarton. [London Florist.

ON WINTER PLANTING FLOWER GARDENS.

However georgeous the display which well-arranged flower-gardens make from the end of June to October, a considerable part of the year, during which out-door enjoyment is coveted and enjoyed, passes away without there being anything to attract the eye, except the mere outline of the naked beds. That there are many exceptions to this I admit; and as I should like to see them become general, I give you my ideas on the subject.

I do not see why the flower-gardenshould not be as interesting during winter, and present as gay an appearance during spring, as later in the season; to be sure it is not possible to get up such a blaze of color in March and April as can be done in August; but still much may be done toward it; and there is a freshness and brightness about spring flowers which make them perhaps more really delightful than summer ones. Besides, most of our spring flowers have been associated with us from our very childhood; and although great improvements have taken place in many of them, and there are more numerous varieties, with new names and brighter colors, yet the resemblance to the pets of our boyish days is not entirely obliterated, and such things as heartsease, windflowers, crocus, daffodil, hepaticas, tulips, polyanthus, &c., still hold their place in the list of modern garden plants.

But to my subject: I must now suppose the summer-flowering plants destroyed or out of bloom, and that it is intended to make up the beds to look interesting during winter, and gay in the spring. It now becomes a point to consider how this can best be effected. In the first place, where beds exist without any particular arrangement, the best way will be to half fill them with a mixture of such dwarf shrubs as will suit the purpose, taken from a list I will append; planting them sufficiently apart to allow for anemones, tulips, narcissus, &c., or early-blooming herbaceous plants, to grow freely between them. The beds will be further improved by an edging of low-growing bulbs, as crocuses, or heartsease, or similar growing plants. The shrubs will give the beds a cheerful appearance during winter; and on the approach of spring they will daily become more enlivened as one thing after another creeps into bloom. But for gardens laid out in the geometric style, something more than this should be attempted; with the plan before you each bed should be marked with its appropriate color, carefully contrasted throughout, so as to harmonize as a whole. In most designs there are what may be termed neutral beds or beds dividing the whole design into separate patterns; now these and the central beds will, generally speaking, be suitable for planting entirely with shrubs, which will sober down the colors of the beds devoted to flowering plants alone; for we must recollect that most spring flowers, as the crocus, hyacinth, tulip, &c., show but few leaves while they bloom, and consequently there is nothing to shade down the color, as is the case with summer-flowering plants, which have more foliage; and to remedy this defect, I have sometimes made use of omphalodes verna for covering the soil between early tulips and hyacinths, with good effect. Where the design is large, and contains a number of beds, the outside ones may likewise be filled with such low shrubs as dwarf hardy heaths, polygala chamæbuxus, daphne cneorum, and similar things, bearing in mind that the plants are placed in symmetrical order, according to the shape of the beds; and that the complementary ones should be filled with the same kind of plant, to preserve the unison of the whole design. Where the beds are very large—too much so to plant with one kind of plant—it will be found preferable to plant alternately a row of the plant or bulb selected, and a row of dwarf shrubs; in this case the shrubs must be sufficiently low to admit the flowers of the bulbs, &c., to be fully seen; and in all cases both kinds of plants should be planted from the outside towards the center, taking the shape of the bed. I have used gold-striped hollies and yews, instead of flowering plants, and these, when surrounded with darker-leaved shrubs, produce a pretty effect in the winter.

To carry out this winter embellishment a reserve ground of greater or less extent, according to the quantity of plants to be grown for the purpose, is indispensable, and where the stock during the summer should be kept. To enable the shrubs to be moved when wanted, without injury, they are usually kept in pots plunged in the ground; but if a poor sandy or peaty soil can be selected, nearly all the shrubs, &c., may be grown in the free soil. My practice is to well cut in both root and top, when bedding them out for the summer, as the object is to have low, healthy plants, well furnished with numerous roots, and not strong-growing specimens; this practice answers the purpose, and I have found no difficulty in moving even gold-striped hollies, the dwarf-growing arbutuses, pernettyas, and other rather shy plants at any season. When grown in this way, a year or two's training will make them answer much better than growing them in pots; but a light sandy soil is required, which, if not found naturally, should be made so. As most of the bulbs, &c., will have finished their growth before the time arrives for removing them, they may be taken up and dried at once, and afterward kept in dry sand or boxes till wanted again. Any late-blooming narcissus, anemones, or tulips, whose foliage is not fully ripened, when the beds are wanted, must be carefully lifted with a small handfork, and laid in beds in the reserve ground, to ripen off. Scillas, which are among the very prettiest spring-blooming plants we have, should always be kept in pots, and when out of bloom may be taken up and placed in the shade of a hedge, or wall, to ripen their leaves. To get anemones and some kinds of narcissus to bloom early, they will require being in the ground before, perhaps, the beds are cleared to receive them; these should be potted when they show indications of growth, and plunged in the open ground till the beds are ready to receive them.

The preparation made for the usual summer occupants in the spring will amply suffice for the winter plants, with some trifling additions, the beds being merely cleaned for planting shrubs. The heaths should have a little sandy peat put round their roots, as may one or two other heath plants, where such are used; for the bulbs an admixture of leaf-soil and sand should be substituted, when the soil is at all strong, and a little may be placed round the bulbs in all cases; in severe frost a little rotten tan over the surface will prevent any injury to the roots, which are most susceptible of harm from frost when commencing to grow.

Those who have never seen a garden in March, April, and early in May arranged and planted in the way described, can hardly have an idea how really beautiful they are at that season. The various bulbs give us every shade of color required to produce a striking effect; and as they bloom nearly at the same time, they only require a skillful hand to throw them into such combinations of color as can not fail to please. I may add, as a strong recommendation for a trial, that the shrubs required, being small, will not be very expensive; and as they grow too large for one purpose they are sure to suit some other; or in other words, they will grow, as the nurserymen say, "unto money," while the cost of the bulbs will be trifling, compared with the effect produced; and when once a stock is obtained a small annual addition will keep them up at little cost.

[London Florist. W. B.

THE BEAUTY OF DOUBLE SWEET WILLIAMS.

BY A COUNTRY CLERGYMAN.

FOR the last five years I have been collecting and growing all varieties of *double-flowered Sweet Williams* I could obtain. I now have upwards of fifty very dissimilar and beautiful varieties, varying in gradation from a white ground spotted with red, crimson, and purple, through the various shades of pink, rose, lilac, purple, scarlet, and crimson. I need not attempt to eulogize the flowers of this beautiful and lovely tribe; all admire Sweet William, and especially the double kinds. By proper attention to culture, I have my flowers not only very double, but three-quarters of an inch across; and these produced in fine corymbous heads, give a fine effect, especially so when the fine colors are so distinctively arranged as to have the best contrast. They are beautiful, whether grown in masses or singly, and well merit a situation in every flower-garden.

Two years ago I had about twenty varieties; and, procuring from Germany a packet of seed, saved from the best varieties grown by a celebrated florist, who had paid much attention to these flowers, I have been so successful as to increase my stock of real double-flowered to fifty-seven very distinct kinds.

I grow mine in a good, moderately rich, loamy soil, upon a dry subsoil. I increase them by taking off slips in July; these soon strike root in pots placed under a hand-glass, or in a frame, inserting them in a moist, yellow sand; they would most likely root as well in sandy loam or sandy peat. I pot them singly towards the end of September, and keep them in a dry cool frame during winter, turning them out entire at the end of March. Floricultural Cabinet.

IF we had windows in our breasts, what a demand there would be for blinds!

American Agriculturist.

New-York, Wednesday, Dec. 6.

INTERESTING TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS.

A CHANCE TO FILL YOUR LIBRARIES WITH VALUABLE BOOKS WITHOUT EXPENSE.

Three numbers more will bring us to the commencement of a New Year, and although our volume does not begin at that time, it is a favorable season for enlisting new subscribers, and, as heretofore, we shall look for large accessions. Many of our present subscribers have promised us clubs of five, ten and twenty at that time. While our agents here and there can do something, our great reliance is upon the individual exertions of those who have read the *American Agriculturist* for a season, and can testify as to its merits. Every person can influence one or more of his friends and neighbors to subscribe; but as this takes some time and effort, we are willing to remunerate such effort, and we therefore make the following offer of premiums for obtaining NEW *subscribers.*

N. B.—The books offered are not "old stock," but are the latest editions of standard works, fresh from the hands of the publishers, and they will be DELIVERED FREE OF POSTAGE OR OTHER EXPENSE.

☞ The premiums will be paid as fast as the subscriptions are received at any time before the first of January next.

☞ Subscriptions may begin at any time.

☞ It will be seen that this offer does away with all uncertain competition—every one will be thus paid for whatever successful effort he may make, if it be only the procuring of one new subscriber.

PREMIUM NO. I.

To every person forwarding us one new subscriber, with $2, we will send, post paid, any TWO copies of the following books in the first division:

FIRST DIVISION.—1, The American Kitchen Gardener; 2, Wilson on the Culture of Flax; 3, Dana's Prize Essay on Manures; 4, Elements of Agriculture, by Skinner; 5, Topham's Chemistry Made Easy; 6, Leibig's Agricultural Chemistry; 7, Leibig's Animal Chemistry: 8, The Horse, by Richardson; 9, Horse's Foot, and How to Keep it Sound, by Miles; 10, Milburne's Cow: Dairy, Husbandry, and Cattle Breeding; 11, Knowlson's Cattle Doctor; 12, Richardson on the Hog; 13, Domestic Fowls, by Richardson; 14, the Poultry Breeder: 15, The American Fowl Breeder; 16, The Hive and Honey Bee, by Richardson; 17, Phelp's Bee Keeper's Chart; 18, Every Lady her own Flower Gardener; 19, Richardson on Dogs; 20, Johnston's Catechism, by Norton.

Or one copy of any of the following:

SECOND DIVISION.—1, Bridgeman's Kitchen Gardener's Instructor; 2, Schenck's Gardener's Text Book; 3, Hoare on the vine; 4, Bridgeman's Fruit Cultivator's Manual; 5, Chorlton's Cold Grapery; 6, Buchanan on Grape Culture; 7, Pardee on the Strawberry; 8, Cole's American Fruit Book; 9, Elements of Agriculture, by Skinner; 10, Davis's Text Book of Agriculture; 11, Norton's Scientific Agriculture; 12, The American Veterinarian, by Cole; 13, American Pocket Farrier; 14, Guenon's Milk Cows; 15, Neffin on Milk Cows; 16, Weeks on the Honey Bee; 17, The Cottage and Farm Bee Keeper; 18, American Rose Culturist; 19, Browne's American Bird Fancier.

PREMIUM NO. II.

To any person furnishing two new subscribers, with $4, we will send twice the amount named in No. 1, or, instead thereof, we will send free a copy of any of the following books:

American Farm Book; The American Poultry Yard; Buist's Kitchen Gardener; Stockhart's Chemical Field Lectures; Beatty's Southern Agriculture; Allen on the Grape; Thomas's Fruit Culturist; Dana's Muck Manual; Johnston's Elements of Agricultural Chemistry and Geology; Blake's Agriculture for Schools; Hind's Farriery and Stud Book, by Skinner; Stuart's Stable Economy; Practical Farrier, by Mason; Allen's Domestic Animals; Evan's Dairyman's Manual; Dadd's American Cattle Doctor; Youatt and Martin on the Hog; Canfield on Sheep; Youatt on Sheep; Morell's American Shepherd; Miner's Domestic Poultry Book; Bennett's Poultry Book; Quinby's Mysteries of Bee Keeping Explained; Miner's American Bee Keeper's Manual; The American Florist's Guide; Buists Rose Manual; Breck's Book of Flower's; Book of Caged Birds; Marshall's Emigrant's Guide.

PREMIUM NO. III.

To any person forwarding us three new subscribers, with $6, we will furnish the Premiums No. 1 and 2, or one copy of either of the following:

Blake's Farmer at Home; Bridgeman's Young Gardener's Assistant; Johnston's Dictionary of Modern Gardening; Elliott's American Fruit Grower's Guide; Guide to the Orchard, by Lindley; Neill's Fruit, Flower and Kitchen Garden; Downing's Fruit and Fruit Trees of America; Barry's Fruit Garden; Browne's American Field Book of Manures; Ruffin's Calcareous Manures; Leibig's Complete Works; Youatt on the Structure and Disease of the Horse; Youatt and Martin on Cattle, by Stephens; Farmers' Barn Book; Randall' Sheep Husbandry; Langstroth on Bees; Buist's American Flower Garden Directory; American Rose Culturist; London's Lady Companion to the Flower Garden; Allen's Rural Architecture; Smith's Landscape Gardening; Wheeler's Rural Homes; Youatt on the Dog; Evan's Sugar Planter's Manual.

PREMIUM NO. IV.

To any one furnishing FOUR NEW SUBSRIBERS, with $8, we will send Premiums No. 2 and No. 3.

PREMIUMS FOR CLUBS.

To any person forwarding a club of three, five, ten, or twenty subscribers, at the usual rates for clubs, we will, for each new subscriber contained in the club, send any one of the first 19 books named in Premium No. 1.

The books in the First Division of Premium No. 1, are well bound in paper covers; the others are in the usual style of binding books.

DON'T FORGET THE PREMIUMS.

REMEMBER that with a trifling amount of exertion you can secure a number of valuable books. By sending one or more new subscribers you will receive free of expense your choice of the books named in our premium lists, in another column. In premium No. 1, the books in the first division cost 25 cents each, and in the second division 50 cents each. In premium No. 2, the books each cost $1. In premium No. 3, the books cost from $1 25 to $1 50 each.

BOYS AND YOUNG MEN.

IT would give us great pleasure to put into your hands a good library of books. We offer you a chance to obtain some of the best books published, to be *delivered to you free of expense.* Just look over our premium list and select from the list such as you would like, and go to work and secure them at once by forwarding us a lot of new subscribers. You *can* do it if you *will.*

SELECTING A RESIDENCE.

IN few things do men exercise so little reason and judgment as in the selection of a place of residence. Instead of raising the question, what kind of a place do I want? for what purpose do I want it? and what are my tastes and capacity to take care of it? they inquire, how great a bargain can I get? how fine a place can I get? how much land can I get? how much money can I possibly put in a homestead? &c.

Now, for a man, simply because he has money and can afford it, to buy a magnificent country seat, with extensive lawns, fruit yards, parks, &c., without he has taste and leisure to keep it in a fine condition is, to say the least, unwise. Many a man has disgraced himself by purchasing such a residence and then neglecting it; so that the finger of scorn and reproof was pointed at him from the hand of every neighbor. Some persons have so much knowledge, and taste adapted to it, that it is only a pastime and pleasure to keep their home in such a state that it is constantly to their credit, while others would make it the greatest drudgery of life, and at last never succeed. Others, again, will buy a splendid city palace for their home, when neither themselves, wives, nor families have any use for more than just a good, comfortable dwelling. We knew a man who became suddenly rich and built him a stately mansion, furnishing it elegantly, and then—lived in the basement; and, it is said, only opened his parlors and used his furniture once in the year, and then a small, snug room to entertain a handful of friends, would have saved him from the mortification of being the talk of the neighborhood for a week. "A little house well filled" is vastly more comfortable and convenient, and a great saving of care and labor, for multitudes of families who now live in the third or fourth story of palaces, simply because they can afford it, and because once a year they want—or think they want—to make a display on the first or second floor, which

does them no credit, only to show they can do such things as well as other people.

Others, again, select a country seat an hour's ride from their business in the city, and thus sacrifice an hour each morning and evening, and the lost time in waiting for the cars, all the time they could otherwise allot to their children and families; consequently their little ones, who have the first claim on every parent, are rudely pushed aside and neglected at the beck of a mere notion for a fashionable country seat. His family is isolated from good schools, churches, and society, simply because the man is not man enough to ask himself the question, *what he wants?* A fifteen minutes' car or omnibus ride, at any desired moment, would take him from his business to a home near Union-square; but no—the dearest interests of life—of his family—must he sacrifice to a mere whim, simply because the man does not know what he wants.

Again, in the country many a man buys two hundred acres of land when he needs but one hundred—others buy one hundred when they need but ten—and others buy ten, when they need but one—and others would do better still on a simple city lot. Few men *want* the same kind of a residence. Comfort and convenience is what is wanted, and let every man look around himself, on his family, his circumstances, and condition, and then honestly ask himself—not his neighbor—not the beckonings of tyrannical fashion, nor the public even—what he really wants and then get it, and be satified with it.

A PATTON COW.

AN ENORMOUS MILKER.

THERE was exhibited at the National Cattle Show, in October last, in Springfield, O., by John W. Brock, of Highland County, in that State, a cow, mainly of the Patton stock, so called, with a dash of Short Horn blood in her veins, seven years old, of which certificates were shown by her owner, that she had given, for days together, on grass pasture, eighty-eight pounds of milk per day, and that twenty-six pounds of her milk made a pound of butter! This yield, calling the milk nine pounds to the gallon, which is about the average weight, would be equal to 39½ quarts a day, making 23⅔ pounds of butter a week.

This same cow had also given, on the same authority, for a few consecutive days, four pounds of milk *every hour*, it being regularly milked from her four times a day. This made the yield still greater—equal to 96 pounds, or 42⅔ quarts a day.

Now, we think this will do, and that our Ohio friends who do not fancy Short Horns, or any other improved breed of cattle—to demonstrate that the old-fashioned Pattons, which the modern cattle breeders of Kentucky and Ohio have long since discarded—had better, like some of their like-minded Massachusetts brethren, go to work, and insist upon it that there is no breed of cows half so good for milking as the Patton! And they have the best reasons in the world for it; for, unlike the Oakes cow, which was of no breed whatever, but, like little Topsey, only "growed," so far as the world knew about it, this cow of Mr. Brock's actually *is known* to be, as every look of her shows, *mainly* a Patton cow—that is to say, her dam was a Patton, and her sire a Patton grade Short Horn.

It is true that, although this famous beast has had several calves, and some of them heifers, none of them have turned out to be any thing beyond ordinary milkers. But what of that? She is mainly a Patton, and of course neither the Short Horns, the Devons, the Alderneys, nor any thing else, can be so good, *as a breed*, because this one single Patton has beat every thing that those breeds ever produced here! Now, fire up anew, our good old native State of Massachusetts, and "go it strong" once more upon the supremacy of the immortal Oakes cow.

We are not joking. Mr. Brock, the owner of this wonderful Patton, is a man of respectability, as his manner and conversation showed, at Springfield. His neighbors of Highland County say so, and *his statements can be proved*—quite as conclusively as that of Mr. Oakes himself, or of Mr. E. Hersey Derby, of Salem, respecting the everlasting Oakes cow of Danvers, albeit the said statement was *printed* in the Essex County Transactions.

We are not going to let this story of the Patton cow rest here, on this naked statement of what she has done, or what she can do; nor to simply say that she was, like the Oakes cow, "bought out of a drove;" but, that the public may have the whole matter before them, we shall relate what kind of a looking cow she is, or was when we saw her. She was then dry, and in fair dairy condition only, and supposed by her owner to be within two months of calving. Her color is a pale red, with a white line on her back; a white belly, and a few white hairs intermixed over her body. She is remarkably large, and long, in all her proportions—head, neck, body, and limbs—just such a cow in appearance as would eat a great deal of food, and turn it all into milk; and, like the Oakes cow, drink her skim milk back again, if she could get it—which, by the way, she did not.

Her owner stated that, a year ago, when she had run dry for some months, she weighed 2,000 pounds on the scales. This, to be sure, we thought a pretty big story, but we were bound to believe it, as well as the milk and butter part of it; as the cow had frame enough to do it. Therefore, this cow had size enough, she ate enough, was heavy enough, to be *two good-sized* cows made up into one! and this considered, her feats at the pail and the churn are not so incredible. She was an enormously great, coarse, plain-looking cow, that consumed food in proportion to her size and the milk she gave.

We have told the story, and thus stands the record. L. F. A.

SIGNING NOTES BY MACHINERY.—Bank of England notes are now signed by machinery, by which a saving of £10,000 a year is effected. The machinery is of the most ingenious description, and is held for the exclusive use of that institution.

A GREAT FARM.—It is an error among many good people to suppose large fortunes the fruits only of mercantile or commercial life. Because a few wealthy names appear among them, we should not by any means take these as an index of the whole. We wish some of those eager young men who fly to the city in pursuit of riches, would read the following, and see whether there are not equal inducements to stay at home:

The Richmond Dispatch speaks of a visit to a somewhat celebrated farm, on James River, Curl's Neck. The proprietor harvested about 40,000 bushels of wheat, and will have for sale 1,500 barrels of corn.

For the American Agriculturist.

CAYUGA LAKE AND ITS ENVIRONS.

WE all know the fertility of river bottoms; but where they are the most productive, there those mephitic vapors most abound which entail both physical weakness and disease upon him who tills the soil. The calcareous clays along the borders of Cayuga and Seneca Lakes are, perhaps, the first in order of fertility next to the most fertile prairies and river bottoms; with the all-important advantage of that healthy, invigorating climate, which gives to the farmer the necessary impulsiveness and love of labor, unknown to him who breathes the debilitating atmosphere of the river bottoms of the west.

At Cayuga Bridge, on the east side of the Lake, is the first plaster quarry, no longer worked, as the gypsum is full of veins of hard black shale, while at the quarries four miles south, pure blue plaster, with veins of soft selenite abounds. The soil on the east side of the Lake, to the confines of Cayuga County, is a calcareous loam, with limestone pebbles and occasional quartz boulders; farther south Tully limestone, boulders and shale are sparsely distributed. Oak and hickory, with its associate sylviac, once covered the region along the Lake shore; farther interior, the tall elm, maple, beech, bass, &c., predominated originally in a tall unusually compact forest. On the western side of the Lade the elevation of the land, at the dividing ridge between the Cayuga and Seneca, does not exceed three hundred feet at Ovid, which increases to the south, while it is depressed at the north. The soil on both sides of the Lake is nearly identical; on the west side, however, the heavy timbered bass and maple lands take the place of the oaken forest at one point a little north of Shell Drake. From this point south-west, in the region of Farmerville, is the gardeh of Seneca County, where all the canals attain their maximum—not that the soil is richer in its natural constituents than in the other towns of the county, but being more rolling and less tenacious, it dispenses with that mechanical aid so necessary to relieve a more level surface of surplus water.

The Lake is from two to four miles wide, and forty miles long; its crooked course between jutting points and promontories, gives fine landscapes and lake views for miles in

extent. As we approach within twelve miles of the head of the Lake, the land rises much higher and with great precipitancy from either shore. Being too steep for profitable tillage, it is generally left covered with beautiful, ever-varying, deciduous trees, broken occasionally by the deep gully which is studded by that rich evergreen, the Pinus Canadensis. But from the arable fields above this steep wooded acclivity, are the most extended views of the grand and picturesque known to this all fertile region. One of the best views, in extent, beauty, and variety, is from the terrace above Crobar Point, a hundred yards or more from the Lake on the west shore. Here you have before you the great and busy village of Ithaca six miles south, the extended highlands beyond, with the Railroad winding for miles along its slopes before it overcomes the great ascent. On the opposite shore is the mouth of Salmon creek, with the spires of Ludlowville in the distance; while down the Lake, to the north, is a long extended view of Lake and landscape, both wild and cultivated, on either side.

Two steamers for passengers, and two or three tug propellers, make daily trips from Ithaca through the Lake, making all the landings on their way. Anthracite coal received at Ithaca by Railroad from Scranton, and plaster from the quarries north of Springport, add increasingly to the commerce of this Lake. The only two villages directly on the shore of the Lake are, Union Springs, six miles south of Cayuga Bridge, in Springport, and Aurora, on the bay of that name, six miles farther south, where the Lake attains its greatest breadth. The picturesque little limestone island, which defends the harbor of Springport from the west wind, has been long since denuded of its tall elms and sycamore by the ruthless fisher and quarryman; the gentle rise of the land from the shore, shows off this neat village to advantage. Aurora is smaller and less of a business village, with many fine gardens; some elegant cottages and mansions, with surroundings of ornamental trees and flowering shrubs which so often take the eye from the factitious architectural structures they adorn. The elevation of the rising ground at this place is four hundred feet, four miles east, at Poplar Ridge; yet with all this ascent, no country is more benefitted by tile draining. After each short rise as you ascend from the Lake, is an extended terrace of flat, tenacious clay loam, which needs draining. The best of wheat is now grown on those drained terraces, where no wheat or other cereal has been successfully grown before, since the primitive soil was exhausted of its enlivening carbonaceous matter.

But the true interests of this fine country are marred in its social aspect, by a sort of feudal consolidation of farms which obtains here, where a few wealthy proprietors have bought "all the land that joined them." Here is the splendid mansion, with its extensive fruit orchards, ornamental shrubbery, long graveled walks, ambitious front-gate, high picketed deer park, preserves, &c., &c., while still nearer the village is the Irish hamlet with its little, unpretending chapel, ornamented only by the significant emblem of Christ crucified; the houses, good specimens of the genus shanty; yet these poor Hibernians look to the village for employment, rather than to the great proprietor whose extensive domain is little more than a sheep walk, as if to save the annoyance of farm laborers. But there is one redeeming feature to be noticed in the largest of these consolidated estates—the road-side for miles is lined with locust trees, (*Rebenea pseud acacia,*) and when their sprouts come up in the fields adjoining the road, they are trimmed and improved into groves of that imperishable wood, so necessary for fence-posts. Methinks every prairie farmer might well copy the example here set by this magnate of the land.

It would have done me good to have called at the farm of David Thomas, at Greatfield, three miles north-east of Aurora; but alas, the philosopher who, above all others, (Dewitt Clinton said,) "loved Flora and Pomona better than any other man," has now abandoned his large and beautiful garden, where every indigenous and many exotic flowers once bloomed. His rural domain, with its exquisite fruits and flowers and fertile fields, has been sold "at a price,"—because, perhaps, in his "sere and yellow leaf," he could not see them suffer for the want of his own physical labors. He has now retired to a little cottage, at the village of Union Springs, where may he long live to enjoy a happy retrospect of the past, and to enjoy the pregressive discoveries of the future.

Here at Aurora, owing to the influence of the never-freezing Lake, vegetation is two weeks earlier in the spring than on the more elevated country only three miles east. Owing to the predominance of clay in the soil, each garden has to be trenched in the fall, so that the frosts of winter, aided by carbonaceous manures, may ameliorate its too compact stratum; yet even here, on this descending surface, where no water is seen, tile-draining is found to be necessary to large and early vegetables. Here the indigenous fruits of every kind are in perfection; on this day (5th of November) the vines of both the Isabella and Catawba grapes have not yet been stripped of all their (even now) luscious fruit. Strange as it may seem, such is the paucity of that class of the *genus homo* who delight to live in and near rural villages, that the best arable lands here may be bought by the acre almost within the precincts of the village, at prices hardly exceeding those of farming lands in the isolated back towns of the county. N'IMPORTE.

WATERLOO, November, 1854.

SCENERY IN THE CRIMEA.

THE Salgir valley now began to contract, until it formed a mountain-pass, which somewhat reminded me of Killie-crankie, in Perthshire, but was even more charming than that. Mountain upon mountain arose on either hand, while on the right the noble Tchatir Dagh displayed its giddy heights, its frightful precipices, and topping crags, seperated and embraced by groups or long lines of trees in which the venerable oak and stately beech mingled their foliage with a hundred kinds of arboret, producing a richness of coloring, a diversity of tints, and a play of light and shade, which the bluff projecting naked rocks only made more lovely, and in their combination created an admirable "melange" of the sublime and beautiful. On every hand were to be seen Tartar houses embosomed amid mulberry and walnut trees, with the green tobacco leaf hanging to dry on an awning of trellis-work projecting in front; or villages picturesquely suspended to the side of a hill, the roof of one row of houses forming a terraced street for that above, and the whole looking like a giant flight of steps. Far on in the valley shoot up the tall poplar, here covered with thick foliage, and grown into a noble tree. Bright mountain streamlets flashing into light, were again concealed beneath the fringe of the myrtle and lime; while wild tracts were planted with the vine, on which hung the clustering grape, for the vintage had not yet commenced. [Scott's Crimea.

THE thought of eternity consoles for the shortness of life.

HOW TO SLEEP.

FOR the enjoyment of a sound and healthy sleep, Hufeland gives the following directions:

1st. The place where one sleeps must be quiet and obscure. The less our senses are acted upon by external impressions, the more perfectly can the soul rest. One may see from this how improper the custom is of having a candle burning in one's bed-chamber during the night.

2d. People ought always to reflect that their aged-chamber is a place in which they pass a great part of their lives; at least, they do not remain in any place so long in the same situation. It is of the utmost importance, therefore, that this place should contain pure, sound air. A sleeping apartment must consequently, be roomy and high, neither inhabited nor heated during the day; and the windows ought always to be kept open except in the night time.

3d. One should eat little, and only cold food for supper, and always some hours before going to bed.

4th. When a-bed, one should lie, not in a forced or constrained posture, but almost horizontally; the head excepted, which ought to be a little raised. Nothing is more prejudical to health than to lie in bed half sitting. The body then forms an angle; circulation in the stomach is checked, and the spine is always very much compressed. By this custom, one of the principal ends of sleep, a free and uninterrupted circulation of the blood, is defeated; and in infancy and youth, deformity and crookedness are often the consequences.

5th. All the cares and burdens of the day must be laid aside with one's clothes; none of them must be carried to bed with us; and in this respect, one by custom may obtain very great power over their thoughts. I am acquainted with no practice more destructive than that of studying in bed and of reading till one falls asleep. By these means the soul is put into great activity, at a period when everything conspires to allow it perfect rest; and it is natural that the ideas thus excited should wander and float through the brain during the whole night. It is not enough to sleep physically; man must sleep also spiritually. Such a disturbed sleep is as insufficient as its opposite—that is, when your spiritual part sleeps, but not your corporeal; such, for example, as sleep in a jolting carriage on a journey.

6th. One circumstance, in particular, I must not here omit to mention. Many believe that it is entirely the same if one sleeps these seven hours either in the day or night time. People give themselves up, therefore, at night, as long as they think proper, either to study or pleasure, and imagine that they make everything even when they sleep in the forenoon, those hours which they sat up after midnight. But I must request every one, who regards his health, to beware of so deceiving an error. It is certainly not the same, whether one sleeps seven hours by day or by night; and two hours sound sleep before midnight are of more benefit to the body than four hours in the day.

SECOND CROP PEACHES.—We had the pleasure (says the Loudon Va., Washingtonian,) of eating a peach, presented to us by Mr. John Iseet, of Leesburg, which was of the second growth for the present year. The tree bore early in the summer, and then blossomed and again produced the peach presented to us. It was small, but possessed all the flavor and taste of the genuine article.

STRIKE love from the soul, and life is insipid.

Scrap-Book.

THOUGHTS IN HEAVEN.

No sickness there—
No weary wasting of the frame away,
No fearful shrinking from the midnight air,
No dread of summer's bright and fervid ray

No hidden grief,
No wild and cheerless vision of despair,
No vain petition for a sweet relief,
No tearful eyes, no broken hearts are there.

Care has no home
Within the realm of ceaseless prayer and song;
Its billows break and melt away in foam
Far from the mansions of the spirit throng.

The storm's black wing
Is now spread athwart celestial skies;
Its wailings blend not with the voice of spring,
As some too tender flowret fades and dies.

No night distils
Its chilling dews upon the tender frame;
No moon is needed there. The light which fills
That land of glory, from its Maker came.

No parted friends
O'er mournful recollections have to weep;
No bed of death-enduring love attends,
To watch the coming of a pulseless sleep.

No blasted flower
Or withered bud celestial gardens know;
No scorching blast or fierce descending shower
Scatters destruction like a ruthless foe.

No battle-word
Startles the sacred host with fear and dread;
The song of peace, creation's morning heard,
Is sung wherever angel-minstrels tread.

Let us depart;
If home like this awaits the weary soul,
Look up, thou stricken one. Thy wounded heart
Shall bleed no more at sorrow's stern control.

With faith our guide,
White-robed and innocent, to lead the way,
Why fear to plunge in Jordan's rolling tide,
And find the ocean of Eternal Day!

THE NEEDLE.

BY SAMUEL WOODWORTH.

The gay belles of fashion may boast of excelling
In waltz or cotillon—at whist or quadrille;
And seek admiration by vauntingly telling
Of drawing, and painting, and musical skill;
But give me the fair one, in country or city,
Whose home and its duties are dear to her heart,
Who cheerfully warbles some rustical ditty,
While plying the needle with exquisite art;
The bright little needle—the swift flying needle—
The needle directed by beauty and art.

If Love have a potent, a magical token,
A talisman, ever resistless and true—
A charm that is never evaded or broken,
A witchery certain the heart to subdue—
'Tis this—and his armory never has furnished
So keen and unerring, or polished a dart;
Let beauty direct it, so pointed and burnished,
And Oh! it is certain of touching the heart.

Be wise then, ye maidens, nor seek admiration
By dressing, for conquest, and flirting with all;
You never, whate'er be your fortune or station,
Appear half so lovely at rout or at ball,
And gaily convened at a work-covered table,
Each cheerfully active and playing her part,
Beguiling the task with a song or a fable,
And plying the needle with exquisite art.

While Dr. Samuel Johnson was courting his intended wife, in order to try her, he told her that he had no property; and moreover he once had an old uncle that was hanged. To which the lady replied that she had no more property than he had; and as to her relatives, although she never had one that was hanged, she had a member that *deserved* to be!

DIAMOND CUT DIAMOND.

A little transaction in the legal line came off in this city yesterday, which for coolness and cunning, has not been surpassed for many a day. Our worthy friend B——, some time since, become surety for certain claims against a steamboat, and was ultimately sued upon the surety. Judgment was rendered, and after the due process of the law, levy was made upon a pile of bricks, and the time for sale was ten o'clock yesterday. B—— was troubled for money, and the times being tight, he could not raise it, and, with the hope to save any sacrifice of property, he sent his attorney, who, by the way, is notorious for cool proceeding, to the claiments, to procure a postponement of sale. The creditor was incorrigible, and declared he would have his money, then and there. The hour for sale arrived, bids were made, and the highest bidder was B——'s attorney. The bricks were knocked down, and the sale was over, when the attorney coolly buttoned his coat and walked off. The officer called to him to come back and settle. He turned round, and, to the chagrin of the claiment, said: "Report to the court that I bid in the bricks and that I *refuse to pay*. I am responsible for the deficiency." And so the sale was postponed until the court shall order another. [Detroit Advertiser.

A Clergyman was once sent for in the middle of the night by one of the ladies of his congregation.

"Well, my good woman," said he, "so you are very ill, and require the consolations of religion? What can I do for you?"

"No," replied the old lady; "I am only nervous an can't sleep."

"How can I help that?" asked the parson.

"Oh, sir, you always put me to sleep so nicely when I go to church, that I thought if you would only *preach* a little for me."

The parson "made tracks."

A Good Double Pun.—Mr. Forrest was serenaded at the Winthrop House. The next morning at the breakfast table of that excellent hotel, Mrs. Wood, the fascinating *commedienne* of Boston theater, was congratulated on the serenade, by a gentleman who supposed it was intended for her. "Oh, no!" she readily replied, "they passed by the *little* Wood for the *great* Forrest!" Mrs. Wood deserves the compliment of a serenade for her fine acting as well as wit.

Boston Journal.

Confidential.—"Massa says you must sartin pay de bill to-day," said a negro to a New-Orleans shopkeeper.

"Why, he isn't afraid I'm going to run away, is he?" was the reply.

"Not 'zactly dat—but look ahea," said the darkey, slyly and mysteriously, "he's gwine to run away heself, and darfo' wants to make a big raise!"

Accomodation.—(Strict business Man)—"Patrick, hereafter I want you to commence work at five o'clock and quit at seven."

Patrick—"Sure, and wouldn't it be as well if I'd commence in the morning at seven and leave off at five in the evening?"

A Broad Face.—A Washington correspondent, in describing a beautiful young lady, says "she had a face a painter might *dwell* upon."

The body oppressed by excesses, bears down the mind, and depresses to the earth any portion of the divine spirit we had been endowed with.

THE CONDITIONAL MAN.

There are some men who are never known to give an unconditional assent to any proposition, however self-evident.

We have in mind a person of this character, whom for the sake of convenience, we shall give the name of White.

"A beautiful morning, Mr. White," we remarked on one occasion.

"Yes," said he, doubtingly, "but I shouldn't wonder if it rained before night."

"Your piaza is a great improvement to your house," we remarked.

"Yes sir, but it is a little too narrow. If it was a foot wider it would be just the thing."

"In that case, you must like Mr. Smith's, for if I am not mistaken, his is precisely that width."

"Very true, but then it's too high."

"How do you like our new minister? He is generally popular, a good preacher, a good pastor, and a good man."

"Why, yes, I admit all that, but didn't you notice, how askew his neck cloth was last Sunday!"

"No, but admitting that to be the case, it was no objection to him in his official character."

"Why no, but then, we expect our minister to pay as much respect to dress as other folks."

"You have a fine field of potatoes, yonder, Mr. White?"

"Yes, they look well enough above ground, but there's no knowing but they may be all rotten before they are gathered."

"The new railroad will be a great thing for the town, and do very much to build it up, don't you think so?"

"Well, I don't know but it may, but then it will be very noisy, so that a body can't have a quiet moment to himself."

"We must be content to submit to a little inconvenience for the sake of obtaining a great good. That is the true philosophy of life."

"Perhaps it is, but then them railroads are so confounded noisy."

Almost despairing of obtaining a straightforward, unconditional answer to our enquiries, we, as a last resort, pointed out a boy who was passing, and remarked.

"That boy has very dirty hands."

"Yes," said Mr. White, "yes, but—but—but," he was evidently seeking some way in which to bring in an objection. At length his face brightened up and he continued—"*but if they were washed they would be clearer.*

We left him to his reflection.—*Waverly.*

Memoranda of an Accomplished Young Lady.—The Buffalo Republic says: We recently picked up the following memoranda, which we saw dropped by a young lady attired in an embroidered velvet talma, an exquisite honiton lace collar, a white hat and plume, and a painfully brilliant silk dress, with exaggerated flounces:

"I must get a vail, sarceknet, gluves, broun hoes, laise shimmyzet, kulone."

We confess we were stadtled at the last item, but think it means cologne."

Our lawyer, "who filed a bill." "shaved a note," "cut an acquaintance," "split a hair," "made an entry," "raised a haul," "got up a case," "framed an indictment," "empaneled a jury," "put them in a box," "nailed a witness," "hammered a judge," "chiseled a client," and "bored a whole court," in one day, has since "laid down the law," and turned carpenter.

Enoch says he knew a man who sat up all night because he could not decide which to take off first, his boots or his coat.

MY HUSBAND.

BY VIRGINIA F. TOWNSEND.

My husband is a very strange man. To think how he should have grown so provoked about such a little matter as that scarlet scarf. Well there's no use trying to drive him, I've settled that in my mind. But he can be coaxed—can't he, though?—and from this time henceforth—shan't I know how to manage him? Still there's no denying, Mr. Adams is a very strange man.

You see, it was this morning at breakfast, I said to him, "Henry, I must have one of those ten dollar scarfs at Stuart's. They are perfectly charming, and will correspond so nicely with my maroon velvet cloak. I want to go out this morning and get one, before they are all gone."

"Ten dollars don't grow on every bush, Adeline; and just now times are pretty hard, you know," he answered in a dry careless kind of tone, which irritated me greatly. Beside that, I knew he could afford to get me the scarf just as well as not, only, perhaps, my manner of requesting it did not quite suit his lordship.

"Gentlemen who can afford to buy satin vests at ten dollars apiece, can have no motive but penuriousness for objecting to give their wives as much for a scarf," I retorted, as I glanced at the money which a few moments before he had laid by the side of my plate, requesting me to procure one for him; he always trusts to my taste in these matters. I spoke angrily. I should have been sorry for it the next moment, if he had not answered.

"You will then attribute it to my penuriousness, I suppose, when I tell you I can not let you have another ten dollars to-day."

"Well, then, I will take this and get me the scarf. You can do without your vest this fall," and I took up the bills and left the room, for he did not answer me.

"I need it, and I must have it," I soliloquised, as I washed my tear-swollen eyes, and adjusted my hair for a walk down Broadway; but all the while there was a still small voice in my heart, whispering "Don't do it. Go and buy the vest for your husband," and at last (would you believe it?) that inner voice triumphed. I went down to the tailor's, selected the vest, and brought it home.

"Here it is, Henry. I selected the color which I thought would suit you best. Isn't it rich?" I said, as I unfolded the vest after dinner, for somehow my pride was all gone. I had felt so much happier ever since I had resolved to forget the scarf.

He did not answer me, but there was such a look of tenderness filling his dark, handsome eyes, as his lips dropped to my forehead, that it was as much as I could do to keep from crying outright."

But I havn't told you the cream of the story yet. To-night, when he came home to supper, he threw a little bundle into my lap. Wondering greatly what it could be, I opened it, and there (would you believe it?) was the scarlet scarf, the very one I set my heart on at Stuart's yesterday.

"Oh Henry," I said, looking up and trying to thank him, but my lips trembled, and then the tears dashed over my eyelashes, and he drew my head to his heart, and smoothed down my curls, and murmured the old loving words in my ear, while I cried there a long time; but oh, my tears were such sweet ones.

He is a strange man, my husband, but he is a noble one, too, and his heart is in the right place after all, only it's a little hard to find it sometimes, and it seems to me my heart never said it so deeply as it does to-night. God bless him!

I WILL BE HOME SOON.

A few weeks ago, we were the witness of a parting scene which touched us nearly. It was between two who were newly wedded, and who, since the sweet day of their nuptials, had not been parted for a day, hardly for an hour. Nothing short of sheer necessity could have called the husband from his bride now—but the necessity came between them and he must not shrink. We saw the long and wild embrace, heard the goer whisper, "Be of good cheer—I will be home soon," and in a few moments more the billows rolled between the hearts that so lately God had joined together. "I will be home soon," These were the words—the only consolation left, amid so much bitterness. Perhaps the pangs of parting were sharpened by the vague presentiment that they might never meet again. And so she turned from the spot, that sad young wife, and went back to the home whose light had departed.

"I will be home soon." And so he was; home before he was expected—home ere yet the tears were dried from the eyes of the weeper whom he left behind. But, alas! how did he come! Encompassed by a shroud, embraced within a coffin, cold as the perpetual snow that crowns the mountain monarchs of Switzerland. Sure enough, he was "home soon."

They dug but one grave, then—but, since, another was demanded—and now, the young husband and wife sleep and dream together.

We shall all "be home soon." What that home will be, rests with us. The deeds of virtue will secure a passport to the golden palaces—the enormities of vice will end in worse than dungeon darkness.

"Home soon!" So he was—and having waited but a little while, she went home also! [Buffalo Express.

Religion of the American Presidents.—The religious belief of the fourteen persons who have filled the Presidential chair in the United States, as indicated by their attendance upon public worship and the evidence afforded in their writings, may be enummed up as follows: Washington, Madison, Monroe, Tyler, and Taylor were Episcopalians; Jefferson, John Adams, John Quincy Adams and Fillmore were Unitarians; Jackson and Polk were Presbyterians; Mr. Van Buren was of the Dutch Reformed Church; and President Pierce is a Trinitarian Congregationalist. [Boston Trans.

Dr. Cox, speaking of persons who profess to do a great deal for religion without possessing any, says: they resemble Noah's carpenters, who built a ship in which other people were saved, although they were drowned themselves.

A young minister when about to be ordained, stated at one period of his life, he was nearly an infidel. "But," said he "there was one argument in favor of Christianity, which I could never refute—the consistent conduct of my own father!"

Polite.—"I do not wish to say anything against the individual in question," said a polite and accomplished gentleman upon a certain occasion, "but I would merely remark in the language of a poet, that to him 'truth is stranger than fiction.'"

The following toast was recently drank at a social gathering in Baltimore: "In ascending the hill of prosperity, may we never *meet* a friend."

Why was the first day of Adam's life the longest ever known? Because it had no Eve.

CARRYING BUNDLES.

Many people have a contemptible fear of being seen to carry a bundle, however small, having the absurd idea that there is a social degradation in the act. The most trifling as well as weighty packages must be sent to them, no matter how much to the inconvenience of others. This arises from a low kind of pride. There is a pride that is higher; that arises from a consciousness of there being something in the individual not to be affected by such accidents; worth and weight of character. This latter pride was exhibited by the son of Jerome Napoleon Bonaparte. While he was at college, at Cambridge, he was one day carrying to his room a broom he had just purchased, when he met a friend who, noticing the broom with surprise, exclaimed, "Why did you not have it sent home?" "I am not ashamed to carry home anything which belongs to me," was the sensible reply of young Bonaparte. Very different pride was this from that of a young lady whom we know, who alway gave her mother all the bundles to carry when they went out together, because she thought it vulgar to be seen with one herself.

AGES OF THE POETS OF AMERICA.

James K. Paulding, 75; John Pierpont, 69; Richard H. Dana, 67; Charles Sprague, 63; John Neal, 60; William C. Bryant, 60; James G. Percival, 59; Fitz Greene Halleck, 59; Samuel G. Goodrich, 58; George W. Doane, 55; George P. Morris, 53; Albert G. Greene, 52; George W. Bethune, 52; Ralph Waldo Emerson, 51; George D. Prentice, 50; Charles F. Hoffman, 48; N. P. Willis, 47; William G. Simms, 47; Henry W. Longfellow, 47; George Lunt, 47; John G. Whittier, 46; William D. Gallagher, 46; Oliver Wendell Holmes, 45; Albert Pike, 45; Park Benjamin, 45; James Freeman Clarke, 44; Ralph Hoyt, 44; James Aldrich, 44; William H. C. Hosmer, 44; Jones Very, 44; Alfred B. Street, 43; George W. Cutter, 43; William H. Burleigh, 42; Henry T. Tuckerman 41; Henry B. Hirst, 41; Cornelius Matthews, 39; John G. Saxe, 38; Philip P. Cooke, 38; Epes Sargent, 38; Thomas W. Parsons, 37; George W. Dewy, 36; Arthur C. Coxe; James T. Fields, 36; James Russell Lowell, 35; Thomas Buchanan Reed, 32; George H. Boker, 31; Bayard Taylor, 29; R. H. Stoddard, 28. [Boston Trans.

Southern Hard Shell—A Southerner gave a party to a few friends, who, happening to converse about Sambo's power of head endurance, the gentleman said he owned a negro whom no one in the party could knock down or injure by striking on the head. A strong, burly fellow laughed at the idea, and as Sam, the colored person, was about entering with the candles, the gentleman stood behind the door, and as he entered, Sam's head received a powerful sockdologer. The candles flickered a little, but Sam passed quietle on, merely exclaiming, "Gentlemen, be careful of de elbows, or de lights will be distingushed."

Mrs. Partington on being asked respecting a pair of twins with which she was said to have been recently blessed, replied that if such was the fact, it needn't be wondered at, for she belonged to a very growing family, and, though none of them had had twins, yet several of them had come within one of it.

Why are railway companies like laundresses? Because they have ironed all England, and sometimes do a litte mangling.

London Diogenes.

DULL CHILDREN.

COMFORT TO PARENTS.

THE following, the last paragraph of which our readers will find to contain some excellent advice, is going the rounds of our exchanges without credit:

No fact can be plainer than this, it is impossible to judge correctly of the genius or intellectual ability of the future man by the indications of childhood. Some of the most eminent men of all ages were remarkable only for dullness in their youth. Sir Isaac Newton in his boyhood, was inattentive to his study, and ranked very low in school until the age of twelve. When Samuel Wythe, the Dublin schoolmaster, attempted to educate Richard Brinsley Sheridan, he pronounced the boy an "incorrigible dunce." The mother of Sheridan fully concurred in this verdict, and declared him the most stupid of her sons. Goldsmith was dull in his youth, and Shakespeare, Gibbon, Davy and Dryden do not appear to have exhibited in their childhood even the common elements of future success.

When Berzelius, the eminent Swedish chemist, left school for the university, the words "Indifferent in behavior and of doubtful hope," were scored against his name; and after he entered the university he narrowly escaped being turned back. On one of his first visits to the laboratory, when nineteen years old, he was taunted with the inquiry whether he "understood the difference between a laboratory and a kitchen." Walter Scott had the credit of having the "thickest skull in the school," though Dr. Blair told the teacher that many bright rays of future glory shone through that same thick skull. Milton and Swift were justly celebrated for stupidity in childhood. The great Isaac Barrow's father used to say, that, if it pleased God to take away from him any of his children, he hoped it might be Isaac, as the least promising. Clavius the great mathematician of his age, was so stupid in his boyhood, that his teacher could make nothing of him, till they tried him in geometry. Carracci, the celebrated painter, was so inapt in his youth that his masters advised him to restrict his ambition to the grinding of colors.

"One of the most popular authoresses of the present day," says an English writer, "could not read when she was seven. Her mother was rather uncomfortable about it, but said as everybody did learn with opportunity, she supposed her child would do so at last. By eighteen, the apparently slow genius paid the heavy but inevitable debts of her father from the profits of her first work, and before thirty, had published thirty volumes." Dr. Scott, the commentator, could not compose a theme when twelve years old; and even at a later age Dr. Adam Clark, after incredible effort, failed to commit to memory a poem of a few stanzas only. At nine years of age, he who afterward became a chief justice in this country, was, during a whole winter, unable to commit to memory the liftle poem found in one of our school books.

Labor and patience are the wonder-workers of man—the wand by whose magic touch he changes dross into gold, deformity into beauty, the desert into a garden, and the ignorant child into the venerable sage. Let no youth be given up as an incorrigible dolt, a victim only to be laid upon the altar of stupidity, until labor and patience have struggled with him long enough to ascertain whether he is a "natural fool," or whether his mind is merely inclosed in a harder shell than common, requiring any little outward aid to escape into vigorous and symmetrical life.

TOBACCO.

"Tobacco is an Indian weed,
It was the devil who sowed the seed".

WE give below a few extracts for the benefit of tobacco chewers. They are worth reading, and pondering upon. They are made by Fontana, a distingushed chemist. He says:

1. I made a small incision in a pigeon's leg, and applied to it the oil of tobacco; in less than two minutes it lost the use of its foot.

2. I repeated this experiment on another, and the result was exactly the same.

3. I made a small wound in the pectoral muscles of a pigeon; and applied the oil to it; in three minutes it could no longer support itself on its left foot.

4. This experiment repeated on another, resulted in the same way.

5. I introduced into the pectoral muscles of a pigeon, a small bit of wood covered with the oil, in a few minutes it fell insensible.

6. Two others to whose muscles I applied this oil, vomited all they had eaten.

7. Two others, with empty stomachs, treated as above, made all possible efforts to vomit.

8. One single drop of this tobacco oil put upon the tongue of a cat, has produced violent convulsions, and killed her in the space of one minute.

9. A thread dipped in the oil and drawn through a flesh wound of a cat, dog, or any other animal of their size, will kill it in seven minutes.

A LADY SEEKING INFORMATION.—The Lowell (Mass.) News says: One day last week, as a train on the Lowell and Salem road was approaching the "target" station at Wilmington, the conductor observed the target hoisted, and the train was stopped. The person who had occasioned the stoppage of the train proved to be an elderly lady, who, on being requested to get aboard, replied—"Oh, no, sir, I do not wish to go—I only want to find out at what time I can go to North Reading." A fact.

EXPLANATION.—One of two gentleman recently conversing about the Natural Bridge of Virginia, remarked that there was an extraordinary incident connected with it, for Gen. Washington once threw a dollar completely over it, an achievement which has not been performed since.

"No wonder," replied his companion, "for a dollar in those days could be made to go a great deal farther than at the present time."

THEIR PASSWORD.—By dint of great industry and sharpness, says an exchange, we have discovered the password of the mysterious order of Know-Nothings. Here it is: "Ktsimm-Ka-Knourumbummsinmus-Kellill-il-mpst-Ksamuiximiuxiuximux-Max-euxeex-Leughxque."

BROKEN BONES.—"Mr. Witness, you have said that while walking with an umbrella over your head, you fell into this reservoir and was badly injured. Did you break any *bones*, sir, at that time?" "I did, sir." "What bones?" "*Whalebones, sir!*"

Miss Gilmore was courted by a man named Haddock. "I only want one *gill more*," said he, "to make me a perfect fish."

OUR "foreign relations" are in a very good state; five thousand of them landed in New-York on Sunday.

A HINT.—Wear your learning like your watch, in a private pocket, and don't pull it out to show that you have one; but if you are asked what o'clock it is, tell it.

IT is a great disgrace to religion to imagine that it is an enemy to mirth and cheerfulness, and a severe exactor of pensive looks and solemn faces.

There scarce can be named one quality that is amiable in a woman, which is not becoming in a man, not excepting even modesty and gentleness of nature.

THEY that deny a God, destroy man's nobility; for certainly man is like the beasts in his body; and if he is not like God in his spirit, he is an ignoble creature.

Voluntary rigor and torment is unnatural; and it is as ridiculous to hate cheap and easy convenience, as it is mad and foolish to purchase expensive and uncommon delicacies.

CAMPHOR has been discovered to be an antidote for that terrible poison, strychnine. A man who had been thrown into convulsions by two doses of the poison—one-sixth of a grain each, administered for the rheumatism—was relieved by twenty grains of camphor taken in six grains of almond mixture. Dr. Suddock, in a letter to the London Lancet, claims to have made the discovery.

Markets.

REMARKS.—Flour has fallen 50 to 62½ cts. per bbl. the past week. Corn has declined 5 to 6 cts. per bushel. Wool is more firm, and a short supply on hand.

Cotton, and other Southern products, a slight decline.

The Weather is moderately cold for the season. Three inches of snow fell on the evening of the 3d instant.

NEW-YORK CATTLE MARKET.

MONDAY, Dec. 4.

During the past week there has been nothing particularly noteworthy in the Cattle trade in this city. Thursday, the principal market day, was the one set apart for Thanksgiving, and this probably influenced the market somewhat, though not materially. There were a few more cattle (156) offered at the Washington Yards than the week previous. The prices were about the same, viz: First quality, 9¼c. to 10c. Fair quality, 8¼c. to 9¼c. Inferior, 7¼c. 8¼c., and some poor animals as low as 6¼c., or perhaps lower. The general quality of the cattle was about medium, and the number in market 1,895, against 1,739 of the week before. Of these, Illinois furnished 208; Kentucky 211; New-Jersey, 6; New-York, 326; Ohio, 242; Pennsylvania, 282; Virginia, 162.

The Erie Railroad brought 400; the Harlem Railroad, 333; the Hudson River Railroad, 300; the Hudson River boats, 150, and 712 came on foot.

The question as to the general market day is still as unsettled as ever. The brokers fixed upon Thursday, and we had hoped, from the appearance on last Thursday, that this decision would be acquiesced in; but on Friday a large meeting of butchers was held, and it was then resolved, with considerable unanimity, that every means should be used to restore the former day—Monday. We were quite sorry to see so uncompromising a spirit manifested, especially since the chief aim of those desiring a change is to avoid the desecration of the Sabbath. Any other day would be preferable to Monday. We think Wednesday the most appropriate day, though there is no material objection to Tuesday or Saturday. As the case now stands, the butchers have resolved to attend on Monday, and pay CASH for all cattle brought forward then, and not to visit the yards at all on Thursday. We think, however, that some of them will be there on that day.

PRICES CURRENT.

Produce, Groceries, Provisions, &c., &c

Ashes—			
Pot, 1st sort, 1853	₱ 100 lb.	—	—@ 7 —
Pearl, 1st sort, 1852		6 25	@— —
Beeswax—			
American Yellow		— 28	@— 30
Bristles—			
American, Gray and White		— 40	@— 45
Coal—			
Liverpool Orrel	₱ chaldron	—	— @11 50
Scotch		—	— @— —
Sidney		8	— @ 7 50
Pictou		8	— @— —
Anthracite	₱ 2,000 lb.	7	— @ 7 50

Cotton—

	Upland.	*Florida.*	*Mobile.*	*N. O. & Texas.*
Ordinary	7¼	7¼	7¼	7¼
Middling	8¼	8¼	9	9¼
Middling Fair	9¼	9¼	10¼	10¼
Fair	10	10¼	10¼	11

Cotton Bagging—			
Gunny Cloth	₱ yard	— 12¼	@— 13
American Kentucky		—	@— —
Dundee		—	@— —
Coffee—			
Java	₱ lb.	— 13	@— 13¼
Mocha		— 14	@— 14¼
Brazil		— 9	@— 11
Maracaibo		— 10	@— 11
St. Domingo	(cash)	— 9	@— 10¼
Flax—			
Jersey	₱ lb.	— 8	@— 9
Flour and Meal—			
State, common brands		8 12	@ 8 18¼
State, straight brands		8 25	@— —
State, favorite brands		8 31	@— —
Western, mixed do		8 62½	@ 8 75
Michigan and Indiana, straight do		8 75	@ 8 87½
Michigan, fancy brands		8 75	@— —
Ohio, common to good brands		8 62½	@ 8 87½
Ohio, fancy brands		9 —	@ 9 12
Ohio, Indiana, and Michigan, extra do		— —	@ 9 25
Genesee, fancy brands		9 25	@ 9 50
Genesee, extra brands		9 75	@10 50
Canada, (in bond,)		8 62	@ 8 75
Brandywine		9 —	@ 9 25
Georgetown		9 —	@ 9 25
Petersburg City		9 25	@— —
Richmond Country		— —	@ 9 25
Alexandria		9 —	@ 9 25
Baltimore, Howard-Street		9 —	@ 9 25
Rye Flour		6 50	@— —
Corn Meal, Jersey		4 50	@— —
Corn Meal, Brandywine		4 75	@— —
Corn Meal, Brandywine	₱ punch.	— —	@19 50
Grain—			
Wheat, White Genesee	₱ bush.	2 25	@ 2 43
Wheat, do. Canada, (in bond,		— —	@ 2 00
Wheat, Southern, White		1 95	@ 2 —
Wheat, Ohio, White		— —	@— —
Wheat, Michigan, White		2 12	@ 2 20
Wheat, Western and Mixed		1 80	@ 2 —
Rye, Northern		1 32	@— —
Corn, Round Yellow		— —	@— 94
Corn, Round White		— —	@— 95
Corn, Southern White		— —	@— 96
Corn, Southern Yellow		— 93	@— 95
Corn, Southern Mixed		— —	@— —
Corn, Western Mixed		— 91	@— —
Corn, Western Yellow		— —	@— —
Barley		1 40	@— —
Oats, River and Canal		— 55	@— 57
Oats, New-Jersey		— 48	@— 52
Oats, Western		— 55	@— 57
Peas, Black-Eyed	₱ bush.	2 75	@ 3 —
Lime—			
Rockland, Common	₱ bbl	—89	@ —
Lumber—			
Timber, White Pine	₱ cubic ft.	— 18	@— 24
Timber, Oak		— 25	@— 30
Timber, Grand Island, W. O.		— 35	@— 38
Timber, Geo. Yel. Pine,	(by cargo)	— 18	@— 22
	YARD SELLING PRICES		
Timber, Oak Scantling	₱ M. ft.	30 —	@40 —
Timber, or Beams, Eastern		17 50	@19 75
Plank, Geo. Pine, Worked		— —	@40 —
Plank, Geo. Pine, Unworked		20 —	@25 —
Plank and Boards, N. R. Clear		37 50	@42 50
Plank and Boards, N. R. 2d qual		25 —	@32 —
Boards, North River, Box		16 —	@18 —
Boards, Albany Pine	₱ pce.	— 14	@— 20
Boards, City Worked		— 22	@— 23
Boa ds, do. narrow, clear ceiling		— —	@— 25
Plank, do. narrow, clear flooring		— 25	@— —
Plank, Albany Pine		— 24	@— 30
Plank, City Worked		— 24	@— 29
Plank, Albany Spruce		— 17	@— 24
Plank, Spruce, City Worked		— 22	@— 24
Shingles, Pine, sawed	₱ bunch.	2 25	@ 2 75
Shingles, Pine, split and shaved		2 75	@ 3 —
Shingles Cedar, 3 ft. 1st qual	₱ M.	24 —	@28 —
Shingles, Cedar, 3 ft. 2d quality		22 —	@25 —
Shingles, Cedar, 2 ft. 1st quality		19 —	@21 —
Shingles, Cedar, 2 ft. 2d quality		17 —	@18 —
Shingles, Company, 3 ft		32 —	@— —
Shingles, Cypress, 2 ft		15 —	@16 —
Shingles, Cypress, 3 ft		20 —	@22 —
Staves, White Oak, Pipe		72 —	@— —
Staves, White Oak Hhd		90 —	@— —
Staves, White Oak Bbl		60 —	@— —
Staves, Red Oak Hhd		35 —	@— —
Heading, White Oak		70 —	@— —
Molasses—			
New-Orleans	₱ gall.	— 22	@— 26
Porto Rico		— 23	@— 29
Cuba Muscovado		— 22	@— 26
Trinidad Cuba		— 23	@— 26
Cardenas, &c		— —	@— 24
Provisions—			
Beef, Mess, Country,	₱ bbl.	8 —	@10 —
Beef, Mess, City		10 —	@— —
Beef, Mess, extra		16 —	@— —
Beef, Prime, Country,		— —	@ 7 —
Beef, Prime, City		— —	@— —
Beef, Prime Mess	₱ tce.	23 —	@24 —
Pork, Prime		11 25	@— —
Pork, Clear		14 —	@— —
Pork, Prime Mess		— —	@— —
Lard, Ohio, prime, in barrels	₱ lb.	— 10	@— —
Hams, Pickled		— —	@— —
Shoulders, Pickled		— —	@— —
Beef Hams, in Pickle	₱ bbl.	— —	@— —
Beef, Smoked	₱ lb.	— —	@— —
Butter, Orange County		— 22	@— 24
Cheese, fair to prime		— 8½	@— 10½
Sugar—			
St. Croix	₱ lb.	— —	@— —
New-Orleans		— 5½	@— 6¼
Cuba Muscovado		— 5½	@— 5¾
Porto Rico		— 5	@— 6¼
Havana, White		— 7½	@— 8
Havana, Brown and Yellow		— 5	@— 7½
Manilla		— 5½	@— 5¾
Brazil, White		— 6¼	@— 7
Brazil Brown		— 5	@— 5¼
Tallow—			
American, Prime	₱ lb.	— 11¼	@— 12¼

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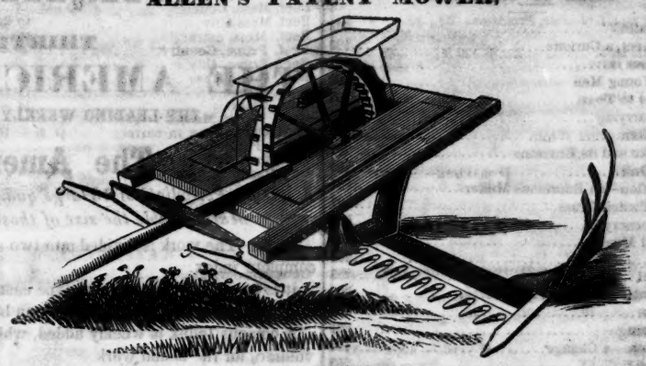

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